The Country Gentleman.

A Journal for the Farm, the Garden, and the Fireside.

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Great Secrets in Cultivation.

THOSE of our readers, whose recollections extend back far enough, may remember to have heard of a great discovery that was once made in the cultivation of the earth, and for the public announcement of which, a few hundred thousands were asked from one of our state governments. The state government declined paying the price, but the people individually paid subsequently large sums in the aggregate, to obtain separately the secret. Many of them have thought that the dollar thus paid by each was well expended. Without giving any opinion as to the merits of this discovery, we shall undertake, for the benefit of our readers, to mention several other secrets in the art of cultivation, doubtless quite as new and original, and which we are confident, if properly known, appreciated, and acted upon, would be worth to the mass of American farmers, quite as much as the sum claimed for the other.

1. The first, and perhaps the most important of these secrets is, *doing everything in its season*—and never putting off till to morrow what can be done to-day. We have known farmers, occupying not over a hundred acres, who lost by sowing crops too late, by failing to seize the most favorable opportunities for planting and for harvesting, by allowing grain to get over ripe, by neglecting to provide and repair tools, and to examine the condition of fences at the more leisure periods, and in various other ways, to lose annually at least one hundred dollars on an average. Consequently, an effectual remedy for this evil would be worth in the aggregate, to a half a million of our farmers, no less than *fifty million* dollars annually. What government will give us half this amount for divulging the secret? How many individual farmers will give us a dollar for this knowledge?

2. Another great secret is the proper *saving of manures*. Half our farmers at least, waste more than half the value of the manures deposited by their domestic animals, through the escape of all the liquid portions, worth one-half of the whole; and by the dissipation and loss of a large share of the solid portions. These losses might be saved by the construction of tanks or basins for liquids, and by the free use of straw, dried muck, sawdust, fence-corner turf and soil, &c., for absorbing and retaining the portions of manure commonly wasted. Now, manure is the main-spring of good farming; and wasting one-half or two-thirds of all that might be saved, is lessening the crops and starving the land, to an amount equal to a hundred dollars yearly for medium farmers. This, for the half million, would again be fifty million dollars.

3. The knowledge of the great advantages resulting from under-draining, remains a secret to many. We have known a field of land so wet as scarcely ever to pay in crops the cost of cultivation, but which, after thorough draining, yielded the first year forty bushels of wheat per acre. Those who have practiced tile-draining extensively have often found the whole expense reimbursed at the close of the second year by the increase in product. There are few farms that would not be benefited more than a hundred dollars above all expenses by thorough draining, making the aggregate gain for the whole country fully equal to that of the preceding instances.

We need not multiply examples of this kind, to show the proneness of men to leave what is easily learned, and which may prove eminently advantageous, for that which is "far-fetched and dear-bought," to show that we need not "compass sea and land" for the discovery of new and wonderful arts, of little value, while so many advantages lie unimproved directly beneath our feet.

Cultivation of Oats.

One of the best articles on the cultivation of oats which has appeared, is the Essay of J. Rowlandson, as published in the last number of the (British) Farmer's Magazine. As the same rules of cultivation will apply in a great measure to both countries, we shall perhaps render an acceptable service to our readers by giving a brief outline of the facts stated in that article, so far as they may be of general application.

Soil.—Any soil in good condition will produce good crops of oats—they can be profitably grown on soils too poor for other cereals, rye excepted—and on all intermediate stages of fertility up to rich virgin land. Some rich, newly drained peat soils have produced from 80 to 100 bushels of light grain per acre. With regard to climate, oats will flourish under a very wide range. The heaviest and best crops are grown on soils the most productive of ordinary farm crops. For all seasons, friable loam situated on broken limestone, has been found best. Heavier or more cloddy soils are apt to suffer from drouth, to remedy which sow early and rather thick. If sown late and thin, a miserable crop will be the result. On marly soil, the grain is heaviest, being often 45 or 46 lbs. per bushel—heavier crops, however, are obtained on rather looser or more friable soils. The heaviest crops on rich and moist drained peat, are raised during dry seasons, when the crop is sown early. On gravelly soils, unless in very good tilth, oats suffer most from drouth.

Cultivation.—The best preparation for luxuriant crops is freshly broken up grass land. The only objection is the small pecuniary return for so valuable a preparation. In the warmer parts of England, fine crops are obtained by a high state of tilth and early sowing—these requisites doubtless being still more important in the warmer climate of the United States. Drilling has proved quite successful, in the few instances where this mode of sowing has been adopted, resulting in ten to twenty per cent saving in seed, and in additional product. Few crops derive more advantage from rolling. Early sown crops are invariably the best. If sown late, the chances are ten to one against a productive one, as the young plants are checked by dry weather, from which they rarely recover. The best time for cutting, is when a few of the grains retain the slightest possible trace of green color on the chaff. Very early oats may be cut somewhat greener, as they will ripen afterwards in the midst of hot weather—a reason why they may be cut greener in this country of hot sun, than in the cooler climate of England. Oats are more liable to heat in the stack than either wheat or barley, on account of their more compact layers, and hence should be left in the shock till well dried. In dry soils and climates, autumn sowing is recommended as decidedly best.

The results of many experiments are given to show the comparative value of different varieties, but that are here omitted as being not generally applicable to this country.

Manure Cellars.

A great mistake is often committed in the management of manure cellars. The manure is permitted to accumulate unmixed, except with such small portions of straw, plaster, &c., as may be used in sprinkling the stable floors, but which prove wholly insufficient to prevent the rising of the steam and odors, "like a gross fog Bœotian" through every crack and crevice into the apartments above. Very perfect and tight floors will indeed exclude them, but will not preserve the valuable portions of the manure, like mixing the whole mass into an inodorous compost. Plaster or gypsum, with water, contributes to retain the ammonia, and is useful on the land to a certain extent; and pulverized charcoal is excellent for the same purpose. But for the common purposes of farmers, for using on a large scale, nothing is equal to dried mould, turf, and swamp muck or peat. Enough of these materials should be carted into the manure cellar, or under some contiguous shelter, to form a mass at least equal to the whole of the manure from the stables. If well dried by remaining there a long time, they will not only act chemically in retaining the ammonia of the dung, but they will also act to a very great extent mechanically, in absorbing all the liquid portions. They should be applied in thin successive layers as the manure is gradually deposited. Many farmers have a large portion of their fences fixed, so as not to be moved, the borders of which, after a time, by escaping cultivation, become rich with vegetable matter. No better use can be made of the turf in these fence borders than mixing into compost. Where peat exists within con-

venient distance, it may be drawn to great advantage during the winter season.

The Mineral Theory.

The experiments of Lawes, in England, as our readers may well know, have contributed very largely to overset the former theories, that the application of the richest mineral constituents of manures is all that is necessary for increasing fertility and raising the largest crops. It is true, that when important mineral ingredients are absent from soils, it becomes a matter of great consequence to supply them. But experiments indicate that this is not a common deficiency; and that the application of the compounds of ammonia are of far greater importance. A late number of the Gardeners' and Farmers' Journal (English) contains the report of an experiment, which, in the opinion of that journal, furnishes a complete refutation of the mineral theory; but it should be remembered that the results might have been very different on other soils. The following is in substance the experiment:—

An incendiary reduced to ashes a pile of barley-stacks, from some 12 to 15 acres of barley. The ashes were scattered over about half an acre of ground, adjoining the stacks,—thus concentrating the mineral constituents to about one twenty-fifth of the land from which they were taken. A turnep crop, a barley crop, and a crop of seeds, taken subsequently from this half acre, showed no perceptible superiorty over the rest of the field—neither portions of the land yeilding more than ordinary products.

Protecting River Banks.

There are many streams in which the plan proposed by F. A. S. will not answer; streams where the bottom will not allow the driving of stakes to hold the brush, on account of stones. In such cases the best plan is, after sloping the banks at angle of at least 45 degrees, to put in a layer of brush at the very water's edge, at low water, tops down stream, and cover it with stones enough to hold it. Then another layer of brush, and another of stones, and so on, drawing each layer higher up the bank, and further from the water. The stones need only to be put on the butts of each layer. It is well to place a few thick brush over the butts of each layer, parallel with the bank, before putting on the stones, to keep the stones where they belong. All that is needed is stone enough to keep the brush *down* in high water.

Gravel and sand will soon fill in, and make the spot a firm high-water-proof-bank. Then plant willows if convenient, and what was an ungainly eye-sore, and a losing bargain, will soon be a spot of beauty, and will increase the value of the farm.

A word too about bridges over small streams; bridges for the farm or highway.

It is often the case that a stream may be bridged by a single stretch of timbers, if the abutments encroach from six to twelve feet on the natural bed of the stream, from each side.

Every few years such bridges are in the habit of wandering off, without even giving notice of their intention, and allowing somewhat to be done to check their roving propensities.

The remedy is to put the abutments where they belong, within the proper banks, and then build a pier at or near the center of the stream; not a mere bent of trestle, but a pier built of timber, and laid up in the form of the letter V, with the point up stream. The timber should be hewed on two sides, and tied together with strong ties, dovetailed, or strongly pinned to the side timbers. Then the crib should be filled with stones, or rather filled with stones as the timber is laid up. If the side sticks are fifteen feet long, and the longest tie at the base of the triangle be six feet, you have a bridge about fourteen feet wide. Care needs to be taken in laying the bottom course of timber, that it be well bedded in the gravel, and that stones be thrown about it on the outside.

If the bottom be soft, drive stakes and put in fine brush for the foundation.

If the banks are insecure, a good abutment can be built in the manner above directed for a pier—and one which will stand you better and longer than the common log abutments. J. *Stowe, Vt.*,

The Osier Willow.

Dear Sir—One of your correspondents asks for information about the growing of Osiers. The writer of this article has had no experience in this country, on this subject, but he knows something of their cultivation in England, and can perhaps furnish a little information to your correspondent.

There are two kinds of Osier, which in England are raised in great quantities. One kind, called the Black Osier, grows from eight to ten, or perhaps, in some favorable situations, twelve feet in height. This kind is chiefly used for coarse baskets of all kinds.

The other kind, the Yellow Osier, is a finer article. Its growth is smaller; the rods are smaller and tougher; they are used in the manufacture of fancy, and other baskets of superior quality.

The profitableness of the crop depends in a great measure on the care taken in its cultivation. With that, as with everything else, little pains, little profit.

Low, swampy ground, which cannot be used advantageously for any other purpose, is just suited to the growth of Osiers. The general methods of preparing the land, and planting, are these: Trench it two and a half feet deep, making it at the same time, into beds about six feet wide, with channels two feet deep between each bed, to drain the water from the high ground of the beds; for it is found that frequent overflowing retards the growth of the plants. Any moist land on which water does not stand at all, is quite as good, if not better than that which is flooded; and it is easier to cultivate, and manure can be applied advantageously—two important considerations in the growth of Osiers.

Early in the spring, cuttings about twenty inches long, taken from the thickest part of the rods of the last year's growth, are inserted in the beds, about three and a half feet apart, in two rows lengthwise of the beds, leaving about a foot of the cutting above the surface of the beds.

Frequent hoeing is necessary—and care must be taken that the young shoots be not injured. Good fences are necessary to keep out the cattle. A plantation of Osiers ought to be as carefully guarded, and kept as clean as a cornfield.

Still, great quantities of *inferior* rods are raised on land that cannot be cultivated, such as embankments on the sides of canals, very low places on the sides of rivers and brooks, &c.; for in England, every foot of ground is made to bear something.

The writer is not aware that it makes any difference when the rods are cut, so that it be after the sap has fallen, and before it rises in the spring. At the time of cutting, every shoot must be cleared from the stool—leaving, however, about two inches in length for the young shoots to spring from. W. H. *New-London, Ct.*

Bees.

In a former article, (April, 1852,) I gave some few hints on the attention due to bees when swarming. If those suggestions are carefully observed, the inexperienced operator, though at first distrustful alike of his skill and safety, amid such myriads of volatile and irritable subjects, will by degrees acquire confidence by success, and come at length to esteem this exercise a most agreeable pastime. Arrayed in the simple defences of veil and mittens, one will soon learn to face the foe without the slightest apprehension of personal danger, and will regard the needful attentions bestowed on his industrious charge, as the most agreeable of all rural exercises.

It may be well here to say, that one must not look for entire uniformity in the movements of swarms. They vary materially in temperament, in apparent organization, in time and place of alighting, in disposition to enter the new hive, &c. The operator is simply to wait their time to alight, after which he must not rest until they are secured. The whole art of hiving seems to consist in bringing the bees gently to the mouth of the hive, and then with something soft, like a table-brush or the feather end of a quill, keeping them in motion until they have passed up into the hive; when the bottom board should be closed, and the hive carried and hung in its place. Every movement requires moderation. Any rude thumps or sudden jostlings awaken instant alarm and irritability, resulting not unfrequently in the sudden departure of the whole valuable swarm to the distant forest. The domestication and consequent usefulness of the honey bee consists, not in any direct exercise of control, for their light wings bid defiance to all human restraints, but in a process of encouragement, (by the kindest treatment,) of their instinctive propensity *to hoard;* so as to secure above the supply of their own wants, a portion of their delicious store for the remuneration of the owner's care. In this view no robbery is involved in the act of appropriating the surplus product. The claim is good for rent of tenement and actual service, while the tenant swarms suffer nothing in amount of supplies.

But the domesticated tenants of the hive and their faithful keeper, are not the only lovers of the delicious hoard. Many a greedy stomach, without certificate of title, is attracted to the apiary, bent on plunder, utterly regardless of the rights of property, watching assiduously for an unguarded entrance, or a contiguous nook in which to riot without molestation. Legions of busy ants will enter through a pin-hole, and the moth-miller, at a single sweep through the ranks of an unprotected comb, will deposit eggs enough to desolate the hive in a month. Once fairly in possession, this terrible foe intrenches himself in his silken shroud, and cannot be dislodged till the last morsel of sweet is consumed. From his own kind too, the honey-bee often experiences sudden and overpowering onsets. A hive that at sunrise is full of treasure and brave defenders, may ere the close of day be rifled of both, and the defrauded keeper can discover no trace of goods or robbers.

Inaccessible walls, a competent garrison and a well guarded entrance, constitute the main defenses of a castle against lawless marauders of whatever name. The depository of honey, likewise, so

terribly beleaguered, *must have close joints, ample forces, and as contracted an entrance as will comport with the performance of necessary labor.* The moth has never effected a lodgment in any of my hives, and I think no swarm has ever suffered a penny's worth from this greatest pest of the apiary. This fact, is doubtless attributable to attention in some degree to the above precaution.

Late in autumn, I remove my hives to a dark cellar, which is tolerably dry, with cemented bottom, where they hang on the same frames till the snow is off in April. If the chambers are open to allow a current of air to pass through the comb, it is less liable to mould. Should the lower edges of the comb become moulded, after removing them from the cellar, blow a little tobacco smoke into the hive, and the bees will become so stifled that one may safely lay the hive on the ground and trim off the injured portions, without detriment to that which remains.

A variety of useful suggestions might be added, but they will readily occur to the practical operator, and experience is a good teacher. H. W. Bulkley. *Ballston, Feb.* 3, 1853.

Rambles in New-Hampshire and Vermont.

I propose to give your readers some notes of farms and farming, in different sections of New-Hampshire and Vermont. My first letter will embrace the extreme northern valley of the Connecticut River, from its source, away up among the highlands of New-Hampshire, down sixty or seventy miles below.

In no part of New-England is there a better or more desirable soil, than that composing the whole valley of the Connecticut, extending a distance of three hundred miles, to the sea-board. The meadows upon either side, are annually overflown, and on many farms such rich deposits are made as supersede the necessity of cultivation, or applying manures, for many successive years. Two tons per acre of the best quality of hay, and fifty bushels of oats, are produced upon these farms, with but very small cost for fertilizing products.

In the northern valley, the waters in high freshest run so rapidly, that the quantity of sediment deposited is comparatively small, and consequently the benefits of irrigation are limited. The land has to be turned up and well manured, to produce good crops of hay or grain. When well treated, it returns an ample and remunerative harvest. Back from the river, the hills afford the sweetest pasturage, to their very summits, excepting those which have been long cleared. The farmers in this section have preferred to intrude upon their heavy forests for fresh pastures, rather than attempt the renovation of their old and worn out ones. The first clearing costs about $10 per acre, One crop of wheat is taken, averaging 20 bushels per acre, worth from $1.00 to $1.50 per bushel. When oats are sown, 50 bushel is the average crop. If the land is intended for pasture, six or eight pounds of clover, with one peck of herdsgrass, are sown with the wheat or oats.

When grass seed is required for a crop, three or four quarts, without clover, are used. The first yield of seed upon hard-wood land, is usually eight to nine bushels per acre. The next from five to eight. Three successive crops of grass seed, taken from the richest upland soil, renders it unfit for good pasture. It is a great exhauster. Mr. Rufus Cross, of Colebrook, N. H., raised in 1851, 300 bushels. Many others in the same town 100. It sold for $3.00 per bushel.

The farmers, generally, in this part of Connecticut River valley, do not yet fully appreciate the benefits of thorough culture and liberal manuring. They do not yet know the capacity of their farms. By attempting without any system, to cultivate too many acres with a given quantity of manure, their work is done superficially. They are emphatically behind the times in the work of improvement. Not so with all, however. There are many wide awake with a noble enthusiasm.

The following "Rough Notes from my Memorandum Book," will give an idea of what some of the best farmers are doing in the section of which I am writing.

Mr. Nathaniel Beach, of Canaan, (Vt.) has a farm of some 200 acres, 70 of which are Connecticut intervale—yielding on portions of it, three tons of hay per acre. He applies his manure in a rotted state, either on sward or old ground, at the rate of 20 cart loads to the acre; spreads and plows in. This is done both in fall and spring, as suits his convenience. On sward land he will sow oats, four bushels per acre—crop, 50 to 70 bushels. Next year he manures in the hole, and plants corn, the eight rowed Canada variety. The average yield is from 50 to 60 bushels per acre. He sows buckwheat on land prepared as for oats, and gets 40 bushels per acre. After corn he again sows oats, and seeds down with clover and herdsgrass. Mr. B. is beginning to raise Swedish turneps to fatten his hogs. He boils them with buckwheat meal. He makes his hogs earn their living by supplying them with muck and scrapings from his cattle yards. He throws in large quantities of buckwheat hulls, which absorb all the liquids, and make a most excellent manure. He has a fine dairy of 20 native cows, improved by judicious care in selecting the best, and keeping well. His dairy products amount to 4,500 pounds cheese, and about 1,000 pounds butter, annually. Mr. B. has never kept an accurate account of the cost of his farming, but promised to do so the coming year.

Hon. John Dewey, of Maidston, (Vt.) tried an experiment with pure clay, as top-dressing on a dry sandy knoll. He drew on at the rate of 20 loads to the acre—placing a shovel full in one spot and letting it dry, and then knocking it into very fine parts, giving a good coating, equally distributed. This was done in the spring. The grass came on luxuriantly during the summer, and where he before obtained half a ton of hay, he got one and a half tons. Since, a good crop has been annually produced. W. A. W. *Lancaster, N. H., Dec.*, 1852.

The Husbandry of Jethro Tull.

It appears by an article in the February number of the Cultivator, that Tull's system of raising wheat is in successful operation in one instance in England, to the seventh annual crop on the same land, without manure. If any of the readers of the Cultivator should wish to make a trial of this system, for the use of such I give below my small experience on the subject.

During the last year or two of my residence in England, I put in six acres of wheat and eight of barley, on Tull's plan, with what I considered at the time, good success. The land was plowed and harrowed till it was fine and mellow, and then formed into ridges five feet from center to center for the wheat, and somewhat less, say 4 to 4½ for the barley. A roller was then run lengthwise of the ridges, flattening two at a time; the drill was then drawn along the center of each ridge, depositing two rows at about ten inches apart.

The wheat was put in about the 1st of October, (but for this climate it should be 1st of Sept.,) and before cold or very wet weather set in, a large and deep furrow was plowed from each side of the ridges, leaving the two rows of wheat standing on a narrow high ridge, with another naked ridge between the ridges of wheat, formed by the two furrows plowed from it. The land was clayey and not rich, and though not springy, part of it needed draining; in this situation my wheat was left till the ground was dry enough to work in the spring; the naked ridges were then thrown towards the wheat, and the ten inch spaces hoed by hand, and in a few weeks after the first working, the plow was passed two or three times in each space, but not too near the wheat, and the work was finished till harvest, by leaving a deep and clean dead furrow between each two ridges of wheat.

The barley was treated pretty much in the same way, except that the furrow turned from the rows was plowed back again the same or next day. The plowing between the crops was done by two horses, tandem, a single horse not having power to do it effectually; the six acres of wheat yielded 192 bushels of the plumpest and heaviest wheat, or 32 bushels to the acre; and the barley 384 bushels, or 48 bushels per acre; these crops were considerably above the average yield in that part of the country at the time, (more than 30 years since,) which was about 25 for wheat and 40 for barley. But what seems most remarkable, is that two rows of wheat in each five feet should produce such a crop, with a prospect of its being continued indefinitely on heavy clay land, if well drained. An edition of Tull's book, published in 1732, mentions only the 6th annual crop of wheat on the same land, without dung; and he mentions raising six quarters (48 bush.) per acre; but in a later edition of the book, published at or near the time of his death, I was informed it is stated, that he carried out the system to the 13th annual crop of wheat on the same land, without fallow, dung or lime, and that the last crop was one of the best, if not the very best of the whole. I never heard it stated, that his land or crops showed signs of deterioration, as mentioned in the Cultivator, but as he was an agricultural radical reformer, it is very probable that the fast friends of the old sytem would spread such reports, either with or without cause.

I have considerable confidence that Tull's system, *truly carried out*, on land adapted to wheat, and *rich to commence with*, would continue to give good crops to an indefinite period of time. Circumstances, not necessary to mention, have prevented me from renewing these experiments in America, which I once hoped to do. The main feature of Tull's system, seems to have been to allow the crop to occupy, while young, only a small space, while the rest of the soil was deeply tilled to prepare it for the next crop; in this way he cultivated not only grain, but lucern, sanfoin, and turneps, the latter averaging eight pounds each. J. S.

We hope "J. S." will become a frequent contributor to our pages. We shall be glad to receive his address.—Eds.

"What is poverty?" asks Jean Paul Ritcher, "who is the man that whines under it? The pain is but as that of piercing the ear is to a maiden—you hang jewels in the wounds."

Notes for the Week.

MACHINES AT STATE FAIRS.—J. L. POPE, of Manlius, N. Y., has pointed out some of the evils resulting from a frequent practice with machine-makers, in exhibiting their most highly wrought and perfectly made machines at the State Fairs, and supplying the orders subsequently received on the merit of these beautiful exhibitions, with those of the roughest and most ordinary character. We can not find room for his communication entire, but only the following portions:—"A farmer attending a fair, sees an improved machine. It is made of the very best material, and with the most exquisite workmanship. It does the work assigned it, with precision and despatch. He orders one—announces his intentions to his neighbors—but when it arrives—how changed! He can scarcely recognize in the wretched machine before him, the least similarity to the beautiful one he had seen. Its performance proves a failure; and the neighbors are quite satisfied they are right in resisting all new things. A feeling of distrust towards all improvements is created." He does not wish to apply these remarks to the many honest machinists, whose work always satisfies every purchaser, and regrets that these should suffer, on account of the dishonesty of others.

The remedy he proposes—exposure in agricultural papers—would hardly be practicable. The community consists of a mixture of honest and reliable men, and those of an opposite character, and the public paper that should undertake to give a list of the latter class, would soon find the task attended with serious inconvenience. We know of no better rule than the one we once heard from a wise and shrewd man, "never to deal with a dishonest person, no matter how good a bargain (apparently) you can make." It may cost some time and inquiry to ascertain such machine makers as are worthy of the fullest confidence; but there are such men, and we know of no "royal road" to find them, other than through the labor of inquiry.

STOWELLS' EVERGREEN CORN.—In a communication from JONATHAN TALCOTT, of Rome, N. Y., who is a careful and skilful farmer, he informs us that this corn has failed to fulfill his expectations. He procured the seed from Longett & Griffing of New-York, at $1.50 per quart, and is ready to distribute what he has raised among his neighbors without price, that its qualities may be further tested. He adds that Prof. Mapes' directions for keeping were strictly observed. This result is similar to that of many others.

GOOD SHEEP AND GOOD PRICES FOR THEM.—Messrs. HUNGERFORD & BRODIE, of Jefferson county, who received the first prize for the best fat long-wooled sheep at the late exhibition in this city, sold four of them to Mr. DAVID MOORE, of this city, for $130. They were four years old, and the heaviest weighed 268 lbs.

COMPOST TO PREVENT POTATO-ROT.—T. A. Smith, of Syracuse, has published in the Rural New-Yorker, an account of a successful experiment in preventing potato rot. He purchased two bushels of refuse potatoes, of the long pink-eye sort, a variety very liable to rot, and in planting them, put about half a pint of the following compound into each hill:—One part of gypsum, three parts hen manure, four parts charcoal, and ten parts "salt ashes," (unleached ashes from the salt works, supposed to contain 5 to 10 per cent of salt.) Half the eyes had been destroyed by the rot—the soil was gravelly loam resting on dry sub-soil, and the crop suffered some from drouth. The result was 12 bushels of medium sized potatoes, *with every tuber sound.*

Information Wanted.

LOSS FROM MOVING HAY.—A correspondent wishes to be informed as to the actual loss resulting from removing hay from one barn to another, by its being exposed to the air. For instance, "suppose I put fifty tons of hay into the large barn in the haying season, and when the foddering season comes, feed it out, taking care not to expose it to the air any more than is necessary. Now how many tons of hay must I draw from the out barn, to be equal in value to the fifty tons put into the large barn in haying time, the hay all being of the same quality?"

USE OF LIME.—Will some one of your subscribers, who has experimented in the use of lime, inform me what he considers the best mode of applying lime—the quantity per acre for corn, potatoes or broom-corn; also for a top dressing on mowing or pasture—whether he would use it with plaster, ashes, or any other substance? Is it necessary to analyze the soil, to determine whether it may be applied to advantage? Any information on this subject would be received as a favor. A SUBSCRIBER.

PORTABLE HAY PRESS.—Have you any better portable Hay-press in use in your section of the country, than "Bullock's Patent," and is this a *good press* and portable, without adding so much to the cost that it would be "paying too dear for the whistle?" Would it be better for me to buy the press that turns out 200 lb. bales, or the one that bales 300 lbs.? Will some one who has experience answer the above questions.—A. S. L. *Loudon, Tenn.*

Shanghai Fowls Presented to the Queen.

The engraving given on the opposite page, exhibits six of the nine *Grey Shanghai* fowls, bred and lately presented to Her Majesty, Queen Victoria, by George P. Burnham, Esq., of Boston, Mass.

This variety of the great China fowl, is of but recent comparative introduction in America; and the specimens sent to the Queen, are described by those who saw them, to be of mammoth proportions and very beautiful plumage. The *London News* of Jan. 22d, says:—They are "light silvery grey bodies, approaching white, delicately traced and pencilled with black upon the neck hackles and tips of the wings and tails. The parent stock of these extraordinary fowls, weigh at maturity, upwards of twenty-three pounds the pair; while their form, notwithstanding this great weight, is unexceptionable. They possess all the rotundity and beauty of the Dorking fowl; and, at the same age, nearly double the weight of the latter. That they are a distinct race, is evident from the accuracy with which they breed, and the very close similarity that is shown amongst them; the whole of these birds being almost precisely alike, in form, plumage, and general characteristics. They are said to be the most prolific of all the Chinese fowls. At the time of their shipment, these birds weighed about twenty pounds the pair."

The following is a copy of the letter received by Geo. P. Burnham, Esq., from her Majesty's Secretary of the Privy Purse, acknowledging the receipt of the Fowls.

WINDSOR CASTLE, *Jan.* 11, 1853.

Dear Sir—The cage of Grey Shanghai Fowls intended as a present from you to Her Majesty the Queen, has this day been received from Mr. Mitchell, of the Zoological gardens, and they have been highly admired by her Majesty.

I have received Her Majesty's commands to assure Mr. Burnham of her high appreciation of his attention; and to add that it affords another addition to the many marks of good will from citizens of the United States, which the Queen has received, and to which Her Majesty attaches so high a value.

I have the honor to be
Your obt. and humble servant,
C. B. PHIPPS."

To Geo. P. Burnham, Esq., Boston, U. S. A.

Premiums Awarded at the Winter Exhibition

OF THE NEW-YORK STATE AG. SOCIETY.

I. DAIRY BUILDINGS.—Horace Clap, Houseville, Lewis co, silver cup, $50.

II. DRAINING.—Joseph L. Swan, Fayette, Seneca co., $20.

III. FIELD CROPS.—*Winter Wheat*—Ira Apthorp, Riga, Monroe co., 53 bush. 9 lbs. per acre, $20.

Spring Wheat—Chas. W. Eells, Westmoreland, Oneida, 30 bush. 31 lbs. per acre, $20.

Oats—1st. E. M. Bradley, East Bloomfield, Ontario, 93½ bush. per acre, $15. 2d. Calvin Pomeroy, same place, 87 2-100 bush. per acre, $10. 3d. Benj. Enos, DeRuyter, Madison, 75 bush. 9 lbs. per acre, $6.

Barley—1st. A. Gurnec, Watertown, Jefferson, 282 bush. on 4 27.100 acres, $15. 2d. David Hess, Fenner, Madison, 128 bush. 46 lbs. on 2 15-100 acres, $10. 3d. R. S. Ransom, Perryville, Madison, 104½ bush. on 2 19-100 acres, $6. 4th. Benj. Enos, DeRuyter, 108 bush. 30 lbs. on 4 4-100 acres, Trans.

Buckwheat—1st. William P. Coonradt, Brunswick, Rensselaer, $10. 2d. David Coonradt, $8.

Beans—Jeremiah Parker, Watertown, 41 bush. on 1 1-10 of an acre, $10

Potatoes—1st. Peter Crispell, Jr. Hurley, Ulster, 554 bush. on 1 17-100 acres. (Yam potatoes) $10. 2d. Jeremiah Parker, 410 bush. on 1 4-100 acres, $10.

Carrots—N. & E. S. Hayward, Brighton, Monroe, 600 bush. on 55-100 acres, $8.

Flax.—Benj. Aikin, Pittstown, Rensselaer, 23½ bush. seed and 445 lbs. flax, on 1 16-100 acres, $10.

Clover Seed—F. N. Tobey. East Bloomfield, 39 bush. 22 lbs. on 6 acres 100 rods, $5.

IV. GRAINS AND SEEDS.—*Winter Wheat*—Aaron Houghtaling, New-Scotland, Albany, Soule's wheat, very fine, weighing 62 lbs. per bush., $8.

Spring Wheat—1st. David Coonradt, $8. 2d. George K. Eells, Clinton, Oneida, $5. 3d. R. S. Ransom, $3.

Rye—1st. David Coonradt, $5. 2d. W. P. Coonradt, $3.

Barley, four-rowed.—1st. Obadiah Howland, Owasco, Cayuga, 52 lbs. per bush., $5. 2d. Samuel Morgan, Albany, 41½ lbs., $3.

Barley, two-rowed.—1. David Hess, "Hess Barley," 53 lbs per bush., $5. 2d. R. S. Ransom, "Hess Barley," 51 lbs per bush., $3. 3d. Obadiah Howland, 49 lbs. per bush, $2.

Oats.—1st. Peter Crispell, Jr., 42 lbs. per bush., $5. 2d. David Coonradt, 39 lbs., $3. 3d. C. W. Eells, 39 lbs., $2.

Indian Corn.—1st. C. W. Eells, $5. 2d. Samuel Morgan, $3. 3d. O. Howland, $2.

Beans.—1st. R. S. Ransom, Canada field, $5. 2d. O. Howland, large white, $3. 3d. David Coonradt, round white, $2.

Paris Barber exhibited 31 varieties of beans, which attracted much attention.

Peas.—O. Howland, $5.

Timothy Seed.—1st. O. Howland, $5. 2d. C. W. Eells' $3.

V. DAIRIES.—*Butter*—1st. Joshua Ballard, Homer, Cortland, silver cup, value $15. 2d. H. Worden, Jr., Lee, Oneida, do. $10. 3d. Noah Hitchcock Jr., Homer, Cortland, do. $5. 4th, Ira Bowen, Homer, Cortland, Trans.

Cheese.—1st. Moses Eames, Rutland, Jefferson, cup, value $15. 2d. Paris Barber, Homer, Cortland, do. $10.

VI. FAT STOCK.—For 1st and 2d best fat oxen, 4 years old, to Gilbert & Sprague, $30 and $25. 3d. Ira Rix, $20. To Robert Rome, Geneseo, for 1st and 2d best, 3 years old, $25 and $20.

Fat Cows—1st. Augustus Ross, Preston, Chenango, $20. 2d. Wm. Felt, Smyrna, Chenango, $15. 3d. S. Gowdy, Lewis co., $10.

Fat Heifers—Erastus Corning, Jr., Albany, $15; and $15 to B. McNeil, Carlisle, Schoharie, for 3 years old.

Fat Sheep—Hungerford & Brodie, Jefferson co., for best over 2 years old, $10. 2d. E. Gazby, Dutchess co., $8.—3d. Leonard Jennison, New Lebanon, $5.

D. S. Baker, East Bloomfield, for the best long wooled, under 2 years, $8. Also for the best middle wooled, over and under 2 years, $10 and $8. Also for best cross-bred, over and under 2 years. $10 and $8. B. McKeely, 2d best cross-bred, $8, and J. Winnie, for 3d best, $5.

VII. DRESSED MEATS.—D. S. Baker, for best long and middle wooled sheep, $5 and $5. Patrick Downey, Albany, for 2d best do. $3 and $3. For cross-bred, 1st, Kenelly & Magraw, Albany, $5. 2. Patrick Downey, $2.

Swine—over 350 lbs. 1st. E. Corning, Jr., Albany, $5. 2d. C. Rapp, Albany, $3. Under 350 lbs. Jurien Winne, Bethlehem, 1st and 2d, $5 and $3.

Poultry—Turkeys, 1st and 2d, O. Howland, $2 and $1. For Capons, 1st. O. Howland $2. 2d. E. S. Bliss, $1. For Geese—1st. E. S. Bliss, $2. 2d. O. Howland, $1. Chickens—1st. E. S. Bliss, $2. 2d. O. Howland, $1. Ducks—1st and 2d to E..S. Bliss, $2 and $1.

VIII. FRUITS.—Ellwanger & Barry, Rochester, were awarded a silver medal for their fine show of winter pears Copies of different works on fruits were awarded to Ellwanger & Barry, J. H. Watts, and A. Frost & Co., Rochester; T. G. Yeomans, Walworth, John S. Goold, Albany, P. Barber and Chas. Kingsbury, Homer, N. & E. S. Hayward, Brighton, J. J. Thomas, Macedon, Wilson, Thorburn & Teller, Albany, Isaac Merritt, Penfield, F. W. Lay and Robt. Brown, Greece, and Hart Massey, Watertown.

IX. LIVE POULTRY.—No premiums were offered for live poultry, and consequently none awarded; but among the entries, the following were worthy of notice:

Black Javas, E. K. Johnson, Albany.

Bolton Greys, Dorkings, Jersey Blues, B. P. Johnson, Albany.

Java Fowls, Cochin China hens, Master Egbert Carey, Albany.

Gray Shanghies, Black do., Buff do., Cochin China, Golden Poland, Silver do., Black fantail Pigeons, Black Cayuga Ducks, Bremen Geese, Fancy long eared Rabbits, a very fine collection, E. E. Platt, Albany.

Black Spanish, Cochin China, Buff Shanghaes, Buff do, Spotted do., Malays, Javas, Black Poland, White and Java Bantams, White Shanghaes, Golden Hamburgh, do. Polands, Grey Chittagong, Game Malays, Imported Shanghaes, very fine collection, W. H. Southwick, New-Baltimore.

White Cochin Chinas, White Shanghaes, Grey do., Black do., Yellow do., White fantail Pigeons, fine collection, John E. Tompkins, Greenbush.

Black Shanghaes, White do., Partridge do., Black Spanish, fine collection, J. M. Lovett, Albany.

Dorkings, Dominique, Cross Birds, L. G. Morris, Fordham.

White Shanghaes, Black Spanish, J. McD. McIntyre, Albany.

White Shanghaes, Black do., Brown do., George Anderson, Albany.

Colored Shanghaes, Grey Chittagong, White do., red wing do., C. Bonticue, Lansingburgh.

Pheasant Fowls, Golden Hamburgh, white crested Fowls, Turkeys, E. Corning, Jr., Albany.

Cochin China, four, something new, Thomas W. Ludlow, Yonkers.

English Game Fowl, E. Goodrich, Albany.

E. E. Platt, Albany, exhibited a superior pair of fancy lop. eared English Rabbits.

PORTRAITS OF SIX GREY SHANGHAI FOWLS, PRESENTED TO QUEEN VICTORIA,

BY GEORGE P. BURNHAM, ESQ., OF BOSTON, MASS.

Horticultural Department.

Meeting of the Albany and Rens'laer Hort. Society.

The meeting for the election of officers took place on Feb. 16. The treasurer's account shows a balance in hand of $40.40. The following were chosen officers for the ensuing year:

President—Herman Wendell, M. D., of Albany.

Vice-Presidents—Henry Vail, of Troy; C. P. Williams of Albany; E. Dorr, of Albany; Wm. Newcomb, of Rensselaer.

Secretary—Joseph Warren, of Albany.

Treasurer—Luther Tucker, of Albany.

Managers—B. B. Kirtland, V. P. Douw, L. Menand, J. S. Goold, E. Corning, Jr., J. M. Lovett, E. E. Platt, W. A. Wharton, Jas. Wilson.

The former secretary having tendered his resignation, in consequence of the pressure of other duties, the following resolution, expressive of the feelings of the Society, was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of the Society are hereby tendered to B. P. Johnson, Esq., for the attention which he has given to its affairs since its organization, and they regret that he is obliged to decline a re-election.

The shows the coming year are to be held June 22, July 6, September 7 and 8, and the third Wednesday of Feb., 1854. The premium list was amended. A committee consisting of Mr. C. P. Williams, E. Corning, Jr., and Herman Wendell, M. D., were appointed to report some feasible plan for increasing the funds of the Society, and adding to its general usefulness.

A letter was received from C. P. Williams, Esq., suggesting sundry matters for improving the exhibitions of the Society and advancing its interests, and proposing to place $50 at the disposal of the Society, to be expended in premiums, provided nine others would unite with him. The Society passed a resolution thanking Mr. Williams for his generous offer, and adjourned.

Show of the Albany and Rensselaer Hort. Society.

The Winter Exhibition of the Society was held on Wednesday and Thursday, the 16th and 17th inst., and far excelled any previous show at this season. The excellence and variety of the display in the several departments, are evidence of great skill and taste on the part of those engaged in the cultivation of fruits and flowers. A hall, in the dead of winter, ornamented with flowers, and adorned with plants in living green and gayer blossom, is a most pleasing scene, as the large numbers who visited the exhibition room can testify. One peculiarity of this show is worthy of notice. There were few specimens on exhibition, designed simply for effect. Almost all were of superior quality, and would have graced the shows of the older and more wealthy societies of our larger cities.

FRUITS.—Apples.—Dr. Henry Slack, of Guilderland, exhibited five varieties, to whom the first premium was awarded for the best collection shown by a member of the Society, [for Esopus Spitzenburg, Baldwin, Red Gilliflower, Swaar and Vandevere.] Ellwanger and Barry, of Rochester, exhibited 26 varieties. John J. Thomas, of Macedon, exhibited 21 varieties in fine condition. Edwin S. Hayward, of Rochester, 18 varieties; R. Brown, of Greece, Monroe co., 15 varieties; A. Frost & Co. of Rochester, 15 varieties; N. C. Crittenden, of Ithaca, 4 varieties; Hart Massey, Jr. of Watertown, 5 varieties, and T. G. Yeomans, of Walworth, 5 varieties.

Pears.—Ellwanger & Barry, of Rochester, exhibited 38 varieties which aitracted much attention; E. Dorr, of Albany, 2 varieties; John S. Goold, of Albany, 2 varieties, and T. G. Yeomans, of Walworth, 2 varieties.

Grapes.—Specimens of Isabelia and Catawba were shown by John S. Goold, and of the Isabella, by J. Mayell, of Albany, fresh and very fine, kept in dry hard wood saw-dust.

The thanks of the society were tendered to the gentleman from abroad, who so kindly contributed to this department of the exhibition.

Green-house Plants and Flowers.—The display was large, and the specimens of more than ordinary merit. Those on exhibition weue principally from the Green-houses of L. Menand, J. Wilson, E. Corning, Jr., J. Rathbone, J. Dingwall, and V. P. Douw.

In the collection of Mr. Menand, the following plants are worthy of special notice. An *Erica rubida* of compact growth, with beautiful wax-like blossoms, *Epacris variabilis*, with delicate pink flowers, *Fuchsia Hero*, finely grown, *Arbutus Andrachne* in full bloom, and a rare specimen of *Crymnograma chrysophylla*. His cut flowers were excelled by none on exhibition, among which were some of the most perfectly grown Camellias we ever saw.

Mr. James Wilson exhibited, among a large variety of plants, *Gesneria valbosa* and *Birchellia capestris*, very superior specimens; also two very tasteful bouquets and five spikes of *Wistaria*, in blossom. He displayed a choice collection of cut flowers, and 38 varieties of Camellias, to which a premium was awarded.

Col. J. Rathbone exhibited a variety of plants in pots, which were well grown and in good condition. Among them, an *Erica Bowieana* attracted particular attention.

The show of Camellias, by E. Corning, Jr., was excellent. In symmetry of form and beauty of tint, it would be difficult to excel them. He also exhibited two or three choice specimens of *Epacris*, Chinese Primroses finely grown, and the best flat hand bouquet.

J. Dingwall exhibited a large and finely grown Camellia rubicans with upwards of 40 flowers on it; thirteen Pansies with large and beautiful flowers, Hyacinths in varieties, thirteen varieties of cut Camellia Japonicas, and a very beautifully arranged basket of flowers, composed of Camellias, Cinerarias, Hyacinths, Ericas, Resedas, Abutilons, Pansies, one of the most taseful floral designs on exhibition.

V. P. Douw displayed a large collection of cut flowers, and Mrs. James Goold ten Chinese Primroses, in pots, to which the premium was awarded, and one seedling *Acacia*.

There were also shown by Miss Mary A. Colby, two vases of paper flowers—very pretty and arranged with taste.

By Miss M. E. Wilcox—A sea-shell work-box, and a sea-shell temple, both very beautiful in design and workmanship.

The following premiums were awarded:

FLOWERS—For best six plants of different varieties in pots, [for Arbutus Andrachne, Erica rubrida, Fuchsia Hero, Azalea alba, Cantua bicolor, Acacia floribunda,] L. Menand, Albany, $3.

For best and most beautiful display of cut Greenhouse Flowers, L. Menand, Albany, $3.

For 2d best, V. P. Douw, $2.

Camellia Japonicas.—For best display of cut flowers with foliage, James Wilson, Albany, $3.

For the best six varieties, [for Miniata, Fordii, Double White, Wilderii, Landrethii, Carswelliana,] E. Corning, Jr., $2.

For best three varieties, [for Carswelliana, Landrethii, Double White,] L. Menand, Albany, $1.

Chinese Primroses.—Best six varieties, in pots, Mrs. James Goold, $3.

Best three varieties, in pots, E. Corning, Jr. $2.

Pansies.—Best ten distinct varieties, in pots, J. Dingwall, Albany, $2.

Floral Designs, Bouquets, &c.—Best round hand bouquet, James Wilson, Albany, $2.

Best large flat mantle bouquet, James Wilson, Albany, $2.

Best flat hand bouquet, E. Corning, Jr. Albany, $2.

Best Basket flowers, J. Dingwall, Albany, $2.

The committee recommend a discretionary premium of $2 to Mrs. J. W. Hinckley, of Albany, who exhibited one large vase and two mantel bouquets of dried grasses, arranged with great taste.

Vegetables.—The show was small, but the specimens were fine. The premiums were—for best show of vegetables, to J. B. Hutson, $2.

Best half peck of Winter Potatoes, to Dr. Henry Slack, of Guilderland, $1.

The largest exhibition of Lettuce, to J. Mayell, $1.

For best Lettuce shown, to V. P. Douw.

C. E. Goodrich, of Utica, exhibited a large collection of seedling potatoes, which attracted considerable attention, and for which the thanks of the Society were presented him.

Hort. Shows at Philadelphia and New-York

The following report, presented to the Albany and Rensselaer Hort. Society, at its late meeting, will be found a spirited criticism on floral exhibitions, and to contain some excellent hints as to the excellencies to be aimed at in such displays. For want of room, we have been obliged to condense it somewhat. Eds.

Gentlemen—Delegated by you to represent your society at the Philadelphia and New-York Horticultural Exhibitions, it is our duty to render you a brief account of our visit. We left Albany for Philadelphia on the 14th Sept., '52, with high expectations of what we were to see, but upon reaching the place of exhibition, our hearts were less sanguine. *Le tout ensemble* was what less fastidious observers would have called splendid, the rooms being well filled up with flowers, fruits and vegetables.

The show of fruits was a fine one. Some kinds of apples and pears were unusually large, and particularly the Seckel and Duchesse d'Angouleme. This latter pear we have found as good this year as any we have tasted, while before we have considered it about as good as sweet turneps. Is this difference of flavor owing to the past warm and dry summer? We also noticed some very fine nectarines, exhibited by Mr. C. Cope.

After having seen the fruits, we descended into the floral room, to give a closer inspection. Upon entering the room, we saw three *Manetta glabra*, trained ingeniously in as many different shapes, and all handsomely grown. These were, to our eye, the gems of the exhibition, as specimens of finely grown flowers. Turning from these, our attention was attracted by some very large pots, and something white in them, which looked like laths, only they were somewhat narrower, and still they were too long and stout for matches. Upon farther examination, we found they were sticks to which were tied some *Achimenes*. Now, seriously speaking, members of all horticultural societies, amateurs of whatever practice, tell us, on your conscience, do you think that, with plants propped up in such a way, you will diffuse a taste for horticulture? Our remarks on the Achimenes, might be applied to many other plants; for specimens grown by the yard of the working gardener, (see Hort., Feb., 1852,) were numerous. However, we noticed among the large collection some fine plants, that made us forget the Achimenes. We must not forget to mention some fine specimens of Cacti, such as *Echinocactus visnaga* and *theiacanthus*, and some large specimens of *Cerei*, belonging to Mr. Cope. Most of the collections of Cacti were in great confusion, as indeed four-fifths of the names were wrong, and often three or four plants of the same kind bore different names. We all wish to be known by our names, and we gardeners wish to have our Cacti correctly named.

But leaving the Philadelphia cactiographers, we soon found ourselves in the Metropolitan Hall of the Empire City, where, by the way, are found some very Liliputian ideas, such as got into the head of the judge of pot plants, at least of verbenas, who awarded the first premium to some specimens which were hideous, supported by a forest of sticks, which, in point of clumsiness, far surpassed those at Philadelphia. We were inclined to think that civilization was retrograding, when we saw floral ornaments and bouquets moulded on a toad-stool. But this is French fashion, I hear some one say. So much the worse for French taste. But perhaps we are unjust. The pots were very large and handsome, an ornament to the table, and deserved a premium. Satisfied with the inspection of *Achimenes* and *Verbenas*, we noticed with pleasure, *Licopodium umbrosum*, sticked too, but in such way as we should like to see all gardners stick their plants, when it cannot be avoided.

Odenlanda Deppei, a pretty plant loaded with flowers; a noble specimen of *Agave gemniflora var. filamentosa*; *Schubertia graveolens*; a handsome fern, named *Nettopteris vulgaris*, were exhibited by Mr. Hogg, of Yorkville. Farther on, upon the same table, were two or three collections of Cacti. One of them belonging to Mr. Richardson, took the first premium, and deserved it. But the finest specimen of this tribe

of plants was a *Melocactus*, exhibited by Dr. Jarvis. We also noticed a well grown *Cereus marginatus*, upwards of four feet high, and fine plants of *Hedychimum*, and a large and beautiful *Acacia pubescens*, belonging to Mr. Dunlap. Mr. A. Bridgman had an exceedingly pretty variegated leaved plant, quite new to us, named *Graptophyllum hortensis*. The most attractive objects in the exhibition, in the way of plants, were a large banana tree, with fruit, and a *Crinum amabile* in full bloom, from the collection of Mr. Barnum, and grown by Mr. McKamara. Both these plants, though not new, are very seldom met in collections. In the notice of M., (Hort., Nov., '52,) these plants are not mentioned, perhaps because he thought they had been prepared on the Sabbath. But we assure him that they slept quietly and innocently in the hall of the exhibition room during the day.

From the collection of Mr. Cumings of Williamsburgh, we saw a fine specimen of *Justicia carnea*, and a well grown plant it was. The display of cut flowers was large, but not extra, with the exception of a large lot of double Tuberoses, the handsomest we ever saw. The roses and verbenas were no better than those we have at Albany. There were no Phloxes, but four Carnations, and some half dozen floral ornaments. There were two baskets of indigenous flowers, very interesting to botanists, but not attractive to the public eye. For ourselves, we would give more for a collection of grasses, all named, than for all the floral ornaments, boquets and verbena crutches put together. We saw no name attached to these baskets, but think they belong to the Mr. Wood, of Yorkville, and take the liberty to award him a discretionary premium.

Upon the whole, it is our opinion that, in quality, not quantity, the New-York Exhibition equalled, if not excelled that at Philadelphia. L. M.

The Lily.

Long has the lily been dignified with the appellation of the "Patrician," among flowers. The emblem at once of Dignity and of Innocence, it has ever held a deservedly high place in the temple of Flora. Yet, until Dr. Siebold, now nearly twenty years ago, introduced to us the majestic "Lilium lancifolium," from Japan, the extent of variety as well as beauty of the family was unknown. For none of the other species possess the extraordinary crystaline radiance of the pearl-like glands sprinkled over the petals of the L. lancifolium speciosum. Our illustration gives a good idea of the shape and form of the flower; but without colors, it is impossible to convey any adequate idea of the beauty of the roseate hue with which the flower is suffused.

The culture of this species of lily is very simple. The compost for them should be sandy loam and well rotted hot-bed manure, in equal parts, and a sixth part of white sand. They will be found to grow much stronger, and produce finer and more numerous flowers in such a compost, than in heath mold only, as it is the practice of many to grow them. This may be relied on from our own experience, extended over many years of their culture. They should be potted the beginning of January, for they commence their annual growth *at root* thus early, and if delayed, the rootlets from the bulb are liable to be injured. The bulbs should be shaken out from the old mold entirely, and placed two inches under the surface, in a pot of a size that leaves two inches between the bulb and the side of the pot, and then put in a greenhouse, or a cold frame. But no water should be given until it is observed to shoot up through the earth. Then water must be supplied gradually at first, but liberally as the growth progresses. In about six weeks from the appearance of the stem above the earth, it may be shifted with benefit into a pot two sizes larger than the former, taking care not to break the ball of earth, and to place it one inch *deeper* in this pot than it was in the last. The middle of May the pots may be placed out of doors, where they get the morning sun only, for two or three hours, and they will bloom the finer for it. But the sides of the pots should be protected by moss or some non-conductor of heat, from the action of the sun. After blooming, continue watering till the leaves begin to turn yellow, then discontinue it, and let the bulbs rest till the end of the year.

Lilium Lancifolium.

Answers to Inquiries.

Cotton Covering for Hot-beds.—M. Wynkoop, of Catskill, N. Y., asks for information in relation to the use of cotton cloth as a substitute for glass in hot-beds. The cotton is first stretched on the frames, and then coated with a composition consisting of three pints of best old boiled linseed oil, four ounces of white resin, and an ounce of sugar of lead; the latter being first ground with a little oil, and the oil and resin heated to make them mix. A coat of this should be applied every season just before use. The cost of this mode is about one-fourth of glass, and for most common purposes, answers about as well.

Fruit Trees on Stony Soils.—H. Stearns, of Felchville, Vt., inquires if it "will pay to mow the weeds and grass in an orchard of young fruit trees, where it is too rocky to cultivate with the plow, and rake them around the trees for mulching, and forego the profits of pasturing the land."

The advantages of deep, rich, well-cultivated land, in promoting the rapid growth of fruit trees, and in increasing the extent of the crop, as well as the fairness and high quality of the fruit, are so extraordinary, that in all *practicable* instances the very best land should be selected for an orchard. But where circumstances entirely preclude this selection of land, and stony ground must be taken from necessity, the mode proposed by our correspondent may be regarded as next best. Deep and wide mulching, although by no means equal to good cultivation, is far superior to the more common practice of neglect; and it is altogether probable that when mulching is well attended to, young trees will do decidedly better on hard, stony land, than on the best soils, where they are permitted to become choked with weeds and grass. It must never be forgotten that the mulching is to be removed after the dry season passes, so as to prevent injury from mice.

In planting trees on such stony soils, those varieties should be selected which possess great vigor and hardiness of growth, and whose fruit is always fair, even under poor culture. Perhaps no sort is equal in this particular to the Rhode Island Greening. The Roxbury Russet, Baldwin, Autmun Strawberry, Peck's Pleasant, and others, are also of unusually fair exterior.

Culture of Onions.—Wm. Cowen, of West Exeter, N. Y., inquires for a mode of cultivating onions, as at present one-half of his crops become scullions, without any assignable cause. Never having met with this difficulty, we can only suggest the propriety of procuring the *best seed* from some reliable seedsman; to manure the ground well, if practicable, with fowl or hog manure, or with well decayed cattle manure, all thoroughly mixed with the soil, with a dressing of soot about the time of sowing, and soap-suds during the previous winter; and of trying the remedy sometimes adopted by gardeners to prevent thick necks in the plants during wet seasons, namely, bending down the tops with the hoe handle or wooden rake-head, to check their rapid growth and cause them to bulb sooner.

Horticultural Societies.

Genesee Valley.—The "Horticultural Society of the Valley of the Genesee," held its annual meeting on the 5th of Feb. There was a very good attendance of members. The show of winter fruit was large, and of great value. Officers for the year 1853 were elected as follows:

President—John J. Thomas of Macedon.
Vice-President—L. Wetherell, Rochester; H. P. Norton, Brockport; R. G. Pardee, Geneva; M. Jeffrey, Canandaigua; Samuel Shadbolt, Wheatland.
Cor. Secretary—H. E. Hooker, Rochester.
Rec. Secretary—James Vick, Jr., Rochester.
Treasurer—J. H. Watts.

The Fireside.

The Antiquated Man.

AMONG the relics left by the past for our instruction and amusement, the antiquated man holds a prominent place. He is not necessarily an old man, but one born out of due time—too late for the age he seems fitted to adorn, and consequently never satisfied with the one he lives in. From the time he begins to think for himself, his course is a retrograde. He delights in fossil remains, and pines for the society of mummies. He admires the nobility of mind in the olden times, and cannot look around without a sigh for the frivolity and effeminacy of to-day. He reads that in the beginning man was created in the image of God, and believes that humanity took its highest possible form in the infancy of the world. He shakes his head mournfully when he hears of progress, and, in his imaginative moments, thinks himself another Noah, sent to warn the world of impending destruction. What is history good for? he says to himself, when its teachings are every day disregarded, and its warnings despised; and he looks sadly up to the leather-bound folios, which taught him such lessons of human frailty. What is experience good for? now that every upstart can start a theory in the face and eyes of hoar antiquity, and, what is worse, induce people to countenance it. He would like to have the days of torture revived, and be father inquisitor, just to put such interlopers to the rack; and horrid contortions of the face mark the distressed state of his mind, as he thinks how he would inspire reverence for the past. Talk to him of improvement, and the high destiny of our country, and he will tell you that we are lapsing into a condition worse than that of the dark ages, and that the ghosts of our fathers, startled by our degeneracy, haunt the earth. He is thoroughly convinced that the railway and telegraph are machinations of the evil spirit, and that, had it been the design of Providence that such methods of locomotion and conveying intelligence should be employed, special revelation to that effect would be on record. At the close of His labors, God pronounced the earth perfect, and shall man improve upon the works of the Almighty?

It is of no avail to argue with the antiquated man. He is not open to conviction, and will answer your asservations that a more brilliant career is opening upon us—that out of out the buried past is springing a higher life—that the world is widening and expanding before the march of mind, by his stereotyped remark, "Yes, all you say proves my position—no respect for your betters—our fathers were all fools, I suppose—people have grown mighty wise of a sudden." He has a dogged way of saying this, that knocks the assurance out of the most sanguine progressionist.

Whatever business the antiquated man follows, he insists upon doing it his own way, that is, after the fashion of his forefathers. He is disgusted with the haste others manifest to be done with their duties, and coolly observes that freedom from excitement is necessary to long life. He is disposed to accumulate wealth in a quiet sort of way, but above all things else, he abjures speculation and dealing in stocks. He must be sure that all he has is safe, and thinks that those who trifle with the good things of life, ought to lose them.

In dress, our hero studies the antique. He cannot bear the sound of the word fashion; it suggests extravagance and ruin. "What do people want of new styles, and new manners?" he says, "as if a man was better, clad in a particular way, or when he expresses himself according to etiquette." He never frequents places of amusement, nor allows his children to do so. It is a useless waste of time and money, and begets false tastes and pride. He never attended a party in his life, and cannot see what satisfaction there is in gazing on such a parade of folly and tinsel. Still, no one enjoys better an evening with a select circle of friends, who sympathise in his views. He can harrangue them by the hour on the alarming tendencies of the times, and has been known to laugh quite heartily at the ridiculous aspect in which he has placed some prevailing habit of the day. He loves to dwell on his childhood, and draw comparisons between the simplicity of living then, and the complexity and expense which attends it now. He has tried in vain to foretell the destiny of the next generation. He is not sure there will be any; but inclines to the opinion that the last days are near at hand, and that such high-handed recklessness will be checked by the dissolution of all sublunary things.

You will find no modern improvements in his house or about his grounds. There is not a tree to shade his dwelling, not a shrub on the place where his lawn should be. A daughter, who proposed to cultivate a bed of flowers, came near being cast off, as possessed of no proper estimate of woman's position and duties. A son, who wished to substitute a pleasure wagon for the dilapitated old chaise, was informed that if his father's carriage was not good enough for him to ride in, he could travel in a more primitive method still—on foot. He cultivates his land just as he was taught by his father, and derides all systems of improved agriculture as humbugs. He does not take a paper, unless it be a religious one, though he is fond of picking up news to strengthen his notions. For this purpose, he goes regularly on Saturday to the Post Office, where he usually finds food for his discontent to last him over Sabbath.

It is very difficult to determine what the enjoyment of the antiquated man consists in, unless in fault-finding. It may be that he feels some satisfaction in being at variance with the world—that he gloats in the positive failings of those around him; but all this is only a negative happiness. He lives in a murky misanthropic atmosphere, and the only light that reaches his spirit comes in straggling rays from the dim old past, instead of from the more hopeful sunlight of the present. The merry laugh, the gladsome song, the humorous jest are all a weariness to him. He wonders the sun does not veil itself in darkness, and the moon go into deep mourning, since the ancient landmarks are no longer observed. Every progressive impulse society takes, jerks him as much farther backward, and his companions are decreasing year by year.

Soon the antiquated man will be left alone—no one will remain to listen to his mutterings, or heed his protestations. His voice grows more feeble, his hair greyer, and his step more tottering with each returning winter, and bye and bye the meager funeral train of the man, who did nothing for the benefit of his time, who sickened of the life he might have enjoyed, will accompany his remains to their long resting place. Let us hope that his future life will be infinitely happier than the one he led here.

Ruins near Crown Point, N. Y.

We have been favored with the following communication by W. C. Watson, Esq., who is engaged in making out a report of an Agricultural Survey of Essex county, and from which this is an extract.—Eds.

The extent and character of these early settlements, is a subject of much interest, in the light it throws upon the history of the region, and as a matter of antiquarian research. Whatever may have been the number or situation of the French occupants, they appear to have receded at the approach of the victorious arms of Amherst, and probably accompanied the retreat of the French forces. The most decisive evidences remain of the abode at some former period, of a large and civilised community, in the vicinity of Crown Point. The vestiges of their occupation which still exist, indicate a people who were familiar with the comforts and amenities of life, and possessed the means and numbers to secure their enjoyment. We do not hesitate to refer their existence to the epoch of the French ascendancy, if not to a still more remote period.

The allusions of ancient MSS. corroborate the traditions preserved in the reminiscences of aged persons, that a population ranging from fifteen hundred to three thousand persons, were gathered around the fortress of St. Frederic. A very important trafic, it is known, was carried on between the French and English colonies, as early as 1700, and that Lake Champlain was the medium of their intercourse. Several years anterior to that period, Crown Point, it will be recollected, was referred to as a prominent land-mark, in the public instructions to Schuyler. May it not have been, previous to the French occupation, an important mart of this commerce? We confidently assume that Crown Point, at an early period, was a conspicuous and flourishing trading post, where the commodities of France and England were interchanged, and where the Indians congregated from their widely extended hunting grounds, to traffic in their peltries.

I have already described the peninsular position of Crown Point; one side resting upon Bulwagga bay, and the other washed by the waters of the Lake. The clearest evidences remain, for many rods along the margin of the bay, of the surface having been graded and formed into an artificial slope inclining to the water. Ruins of enclosures are still visible. The fragments of a former wall, in one instance, distinctly marks its course. Trees which have sprung up along the line of this wall, have preserved parts almost entire. This enclosure, embracing an area of about two acres, was evidently a fruit-yard or garden. Fruit trees were flourishing in it, within the recollection of the present owner. An avenue seems to have swept in a wide curvature along the margin of the bay, in front of these enclosures, and approached a landing place, adapted to the craft, which at that time navigated the lake. Equally distinct and obvious indications, are exhibited parallel to this avenue, upon the crest of a slight eminence, of the former residence of a dense and prosperous population. A street may be traced, reaching a long distance toward the main land, raised and covered with broken stone, not unlike the McAdam roads of the present day. The ruins of cellars, many of which are excavated from the solid rock, line this street on each side. The com-

pact arrangement of these cellars, and the narrowness of the avenue, present a striking analogy to the ancient villages in Canada, founded by the French. No memorial of this bygone age, so thrilled upon my feelings and excited my imagination, as the remnant of the side-walk along this street. It is formed of flagging, similar to that now in use in our cities. The stones are smooth and worn by much use, and remain in the position they were left by the generations who thronged them, in the busy scenes of life. We were assured by the occupant of the grounds, that in his agricultural operations, he has displaced many continuous rods of this pavement, which was in perfect preservation. To tread upon the pathway of a people, whose name and lineage are forgotten, whose history is extinct, and whose very era is obscured, impresses the mind with a deeply saddening and solemnizing influence. These, and equally marked indications, extend over a wide space about the fort and along the shores of the lake.

Still stronger evidences exist, near the residence of Col. Tremble, of the site of a large village once densely populated. Two large cemeteries, one near the garrison grounds and the other upon the last locality, attest that the living, in numerous assemblages, have animated these scenes. The worthy occupant of the former, remarked, without seeming conscious that he was yielding to the dictates of a refined sentiment, that he had felt constrained in particular spots to arrest the plow, because it so fearfully exposed the relics of the dead. Still another touching evidence remains, that man, in an advanced stage of society, has left his footprints on these scenes, to attest his former presence. Asparagus, other hardy plants, and shrubs, usually cherished by the hand of human culture, still flourish wild and uncared for upon these fields.

The settlers, who occupied this territory after the revolution, found in an area of about five miles from the fort, not a tree or a bush to obstruct the view over the beautiful and wide champagne, that had been once highly cultivated. Now a heavy forest covers half the tract. Rogers, in describing one of his predatory excursions, speaks of luxuriant crops waving upon these fields; and on another occasion he alludes to his fireing, in a sudden foray, the village itself. Kalm, the Swedish traveler, saw about the fort, as late as 1749, a considerable settlement, "pleasant and cultivated gardens," and "a neat little church within the ramparts." Persons recently deceased, whose recollection extended to a period beyond the revolution, recall Crown Point, when its business operations were conducted in several stores.

A circumstance, occurring at a later period, which we shall introduce, with its evidences, in a subsequent part of this narrative that seems to have contemplated Crown Point as the capitol of a projected province, is strongly significant of its former central position and political importance. A solitary farm-house, now occupies the peninsula of Crown Point.

I have been allured by the pathos and romance of a subject, that I believe has no parallel in this country, to devote an unusual space to its consideration.

The Quackery of Agricultural Science.

In offering a few remarks on the subject named above, I beg to disclaim all personal reflection. I shall aim only to expose things, not persons. And first, permit to explain what I mean by the term *science*. The general term means truth, with all its attributes and adjuncts arranged systematically. In its restricted or special sense, the term means full knowledge of an art or business in all its parts reduced to rule. For example, the science of agriculture, is a complete theoretical and practical knoweldge of all the arts and means, practical and theoretical, required in conducting a farm in the best manner. The science of agriculture or scientific agriculture, does not mean a few skimmings of scum from the well of knowledge, a few imperfect analyses of a few handsful of soil from a few fields; nor are the requirements of science fulfilled by an occasional dip in the spring of knowledge. The most scientific farmer I ever saw, could not analyze a handful of soil, according to what we call science. He had acquired by long experience and observation a knowledge of soils, their defects, and the remedies, that enabled him to judge with precision the quality of any soil, without the aid of the alembic or crucible. Now, if he had been enabled to resort to the art of Chemistry, it would have saved him much time and labor in acquiring his knowledge; but still he was a man of true science. It does not follow, because the blacksmith cannot explain the *science* of his use of air in his forge, or why he blows air among his coals, or why the doing so increases the heat of his forge, that he is not a scientific blacksmith—he may be and very often is a perfect master of his branch of science, so far as the practice of his own business is concerned. And he can teach others the art and practice, though he cannot teach the mere theory. Again, a man may acquire a perfect knowledge of agriculture from other teachers, than professors of Chemistry and Geology. To an observing eye, a soil will itself give indications of its qualities. I knew a man—I know him now, who, if he were about purchasing a piece of land, would look at the growth of the trees, bushes, and even weeds that were on the land, and could by them tell what the land was. I am aware that I shall be considered as an empiric rather than a scientific teacher, if I go on in this strain; and therefore I shall proceed to my object, after one more remark, which if some folks consider it a *parthian* shot, I hope it will hurt nobody. I would give more for one ounce of good sound science, derived from practical experience, than for ten pounds of that derived from ordinary modern "scientific analyses and essays."

I have long since come to the conclusion, that, as respects the science of medicine, there is more quackery in the profession than out of it, abundant as is the supply of the latter; so also in agricultural science, there is ten times as much quackery in the science as taught, as there is in the ordinary practice of agriculture. Pray, sir, what is a science? I have endeavored to define the term above; but let me try again. True science is a *knowledge of a man's own business*, is it not? If a man knows how to make the most profit with the least amount of labor and capital, I imagine, whether you call him scientific or not, he possesses the best sort of knowledge of his business; and if this be not at present called science, it ought to be. But here, just here, this successful farmer is called from his plow to listen to the harrangue of some one who talks to him about the absence of the calcareous, or some other principle in his soil, and the necessity for his applying lime, potash, and ammonia, &c., &c. Well, the farmer will say, this is all very well, but I raise good crops, notwithstanding the absence of lime, &c., and what more will your addition enable me to do? But says the lecturer, let me analyze your soil, and that will enable you to raise larger crops. He goes to work, analyzes the soil, and furnishes the farmer with a prescription, as follows:

Phosphate of Lime, 100 lbs.
Sulphate of Ammonia, 10 lbs.
Carbonate of Lime, 500 lbs., &c., &c.

Mix thoroughly, and spread broadcast over one acre. Now this is all very well, but where is the farmer to get the various ingredients? The result is, the lecturer pockets his fee, and the farmer the loss; for it is impossible, even though the articles were ever so necessary to the soil, that they could be obtained by all, or even by any body scarcely, considering the number of farmers. A few persons may, by extra exertions, obtain some of them; some few may obtain one or two of them, but comparatively few persons in the great multitude of farmers, can obtain any of them. I need not enlarge upon this subject. This quackery is at this day every where prevalent, in forms as various as the physiognomies of the propagators.

Now let all farmers take heed to themselves in this, and learn that the science of agriculture is that true knowledge of one's own farm and its soil, that enables him to make the most of it, without impoverishing, but rather continually improving it, at the least expense, in labor and money. If lime be accessible to you, try a small quantity on a small piece of land of a fair average of your farm; if it improves your crop to amount of the expense of its application or more, then you have a scientific warrant for extending the application; if it does not, then you will have lost but little, either in money or labor. So with all other experiments; try them on a very small scale, and enlarge them upon success. Devoted as I am, and always have been to *science*, I would not give one practical experiment for all the "scientific" theories of Liebig and other chemists put together, for practical farmers' use. The true science of agriculture is to be drawn alone from intelligent practical experience; and in the absence of such, the most perfect theories will be of no avail, in agriculture or any other business. I would by no means be understood as opposing the progress of agricultural chemistry—quite the contrary. A knowledge of it is a great and powerful assistant to the farmer. It will enable him very often to hit upon an improvement in his soil, that years of practice might not accomplish. But it is not the main or principal agent that he is to look to. A knowledge of the principle of action of all things in which we are engaged, is essential to a perfect understanding of the means to arrive at an end; and we should therefore study the *science* of an art, let that art be what it may. But this *study* of the science is one thing, and submission to the humbuggery of brazen-faced pretension another. Let every farmer study well and thoroughly the *theory*, as he pursues the practice of agriculture, and thus improve and correct the latter by the suggestions of the former, as he progresses, and then he will soon become a scientific farmer.

On the contrary, we must all take care that we do not carry our opposition to *spurious* science into the territory of *true* science. Because practice does not always or often result in the support of theory, we must not therefore take it for granted that all theory, or even the particular theory involved, is unsound. We must continually bear in mind that all the operations of nature, the growth of plants, the formation of nutrition, everything, are governed by fixed laws; and that

theory is the mere arrangement of these laws, into a system for practical purposes. According to these laws, all the operations of the farm must be carried on to obtain the best results, and all our necessary failures will be, and must be, in proportion to our conformity to, or deviation from those laws.

If, for example, any practice fails to produce the result indicated by the theory, one of two things will be self-evident; either the theory is predicated upon false principles, or the operator has failed to carry the theory into full effect. This failure should not be considered as evidence that there is no such thing as sound theory. I believe that nine-tenths of the so called scientific theories of the day, are the veriest scientific nonsense; and yet who shall say which is the *tenth*, or truthful one?

And now to the main object of our paper—the remedy for quackery, in all its forms and phases, where it is to be found and how obtained? The answer is plain—in the liberal education of our people. I cannot conclude this paper in a more appropriate way, than by addressing a few words to all our agricultural friends on this subject. Few men have mixed more in the society of farmers than I have, and I am compelled to say that there is no one expenditure made by them so grudgingly, as that for the schooling of their sons. Among ordinary farmers, they "cannot spare them to go to school, except one quarter in the dead of winter;" and even then the *cheapest* school, if there be a choice, is sought for. Now to obviate the evils of false, and to secure the advantages of true science, a liberal education is essential—the education of all the youth in the State—nothing more, nothing less. Until this is accomplished our agricultural community will continue to be the prey of quackery in all its forms.

N. B. According to my idea of things, the criticism in the 4th number, January 27th, page 59, on the "Professional Education of Farmers," does me injustice by *over measure*, a fault not often complained of, in saying that I have "left nothing to say on this subject." This is a great mistake. I have left volumes to be said, both by the critic and the public; and, arranging myself among the latter, I expect, (health permitting,) even myself to say a great deal more. Certainly, while I can use the pen, I shall not cease to urge the professional education of farmers upon the public, until every farmer in this broad Union, shall consider himself, and be considered, an educated gentleman—one who shall not find it necessary to employ a traveling chemist, to tell him what kind of manures he must use to increase his crop of corn or wheat. And when you, Mr. Critic, shall see that time, I predict that you shall also see the farmer and the gardener, recognised at the "store" door, and the "hotel" door, and everywhere else, as gentlemen—"gentlemen who can dine with us," as an aristocratic friend of ours once said, in speaking of the qualifications he desired in the candidates for membership in a Pigeon Shooting Club. Yours, G. B. Smith.

Large Trees of Western New-York.

The large trees of Western New-York are fast disappearing before the progress of civilization, which annually destroys thousands. Railroads are fast introducing coal from Pennsylvania into most of our cities and villages, which will yearly continue to diminish the demand for wood, and render it unprofitable for farmers to preserve it to sell. Nor is man the only enemy of our forest trees; large numbers die annually from the depredations of insects, especially the white oaks, (*Quercus bicolor;*) nor is the time distant, when Genesee flour will be carried to market in sacks instead of barrels.

The following is a notice of some of our largest trees: Some years since, a section of the hollow trunk of a large black walnut, (*Juglans nigra,*) sixteen feet in diameter, was conveyed from Cattaraugus county, via the Erie canal and Hudson river, to New-York, where it was used as a grocery.

There is a big tree still alive, (July, 1851,) on the banks of the Genesee river, about a mile from the village of Geneseo. It is a swamp white oak, (*Quercus bicolor*, Wild.) At the height of about 20 feet, its body sends forth numerous large branches, many of which are now dead. The trunk varies little in size from the ground to the branches, it having an everage circumference of 27 feet. The smallest circumference is 24 feet. An elm tree, three feet in circumference, is partly joined with it, their bodies often touching and their limbs intertwining,—the green leaves of the elm making the old oak look healthier and fresher than it really is.

The "Big Tree" seems fated soon to die. It is situated among others in a pasture; but the ground is bare and hard beneath it, from the tramping of cattle and visitors. I obtained a few botanical specimens from its green branches, and left, regretting that all the limbs of that venerable old tree were not alive.

The swamp white oaks are numerous, and often attain great size, on the Genesee Flats. As examples, one is 14 feet in circumference, another 13 feet 9 inches, a third 12 feet 8 inches. The wood of this species is said to be superior to that of the common white oak. Many of these majestic trees contain more solid feet than the "Big Tree," on account of their greater height. The country is greatly indebted to the good taste of the Wadsworths, who have left groups of noble trees standing in their meadows and fields.

In February, 1852, I visited the lumber region in Alleghany county, New-York, where a large portion of the hills and valleys are still covered with dense forests, through which the white pines (*Pinus strobus*) are conspicuous for their great size and height. I measured one which was 15½ feet in circumference, at the hight of four feet from the ground. One stump was five feet in diameter, another 4½ A saw log, four feet in diameter, by its annular rings, showed an age of about 210 years. The largest log which I could learn of ever having been at any of the mills, was one sawed several years since, seven feet in diameter. I saw a hemlock, (*Pinus canadensis,*) which was 12½ feet in circumference.

In the history of New-Hamshire, by Belknap, a white pine is mentioned, which was seven feet in diameter. Michaux, in his Sylva, states that he saw a stump in Maine more than six feet in diameter. He also measured two trunks that were felled; one was 154 feet long and 54 inches in diameter; the other 142 feet long and 44 inches in diameter. Probably no part of the United States can boast of larger white pines than Alleghany county.

An elm (*Ulmus americana*) was cut down in January, 1852, on the farm of S. K. Jones, near Dresden, Yates co., N. Y., whose stump is 4 feet 10 inches in diameter, at the height of four feet from the ground. At the height of 15 feet the trunk was 15½ feet in circumference. At the height of 20 feet, where the trunk divides into two large branches, the circumference is still greater. Its hight was about 60 feet; its annular rings indicate an age of about 300 years; owing to a slight decay, they cannot be counted with exactness.

There is, or was a few years since, an elm a little more than 33 feet in circumference, standing about a mile from the city of Auburn, in this State. It was a few rods from the turnpike. It attained quite a celebrity, and was long known as the "Big Elm."

In the township of Sodus, Wayne county, are many large sycamores, (*Platanus occidentalis,*) several of which are from 14 to 16 feet in diameter. The largest are uniformly hollow. These trees are not far from Lake Ontario, and their branches still seem to be in a flourishing condition.

Most of the above mentioned trees, grew in a rich, deep, alluvial soil; even the large pines were either in ravines or valleys.

Prof. Chadwick informs me that he measured an apple tree, in the summer of 1851, on the farm of Deacon John Cooledge, near Mount Auburn, in the vicinity of Boston. The tree was tall, well formed, and flourishing, with a circumference, six feet from the ground, of 13 feet; at about four feet from the ground, its circumference was 12 feet. This tree is about 200 years old; it was grafted a few years since, and in 1850 yielded six barrels of Baldwinds. Fifty years ago, it often yielded two large cartloads of native apples. It stands in a rich, sandy loam, near the base of a hill, adjoining the southwest corner of Mount Auburn Cemetery.

I published a large portion of the above in Silliman's American Journal of Science, in which I was inadvertently led into an error, with regard to the locality of the big black walnut tree. That article has been rewritten, and is now offered to the public, with the addition of some new matter. Yours truly, S. B. Buckley. *West Dresden, Yates Co., N. Y., Jan.* 31, 1853.

Letters from Over the Sea—No. 5.

London, Jan. 20, 1853.

Dear Sir—I see by my American newspaper, that the State of New-York propose to purchase Stewart & Co.'s marble palace, at the corner of Park and Broadway, for the purpose of coverting it into a post office. Although your government would act very wisely in so doing, the thought involuntarily crossed my mind, that a fine opportunity will be thereby lost to the Empire City, of acquiring an admirable edifice for a public museum. The importance of the formation of institutions of this nature is of national magnitude; for since in the last thirty years, we have in London extended our institutions for public instruction and amusement, and thrown open their doors to all classes, the influence for good exercised by them, has been found to operate upon the public mind far beyond the expectation. In the hope that a short sketch of the history of the British Museum, may contribute to turn the thoughts of some of the many influential minds among the readers of the Country Gentleman, to a consideration of this subject, I propose in this letter to call your attention to it.

Its origin, like that of most great undertakings, which in their progress have attained a magnitude that their projectors neither expected or foresaw, arose from the simple circumstance of a gentleman having, for the indulgence of his taste, commenced the very praiseworthy system of methodically arranging his accumulated specimens in divers

branches of archeology and natural history. The result of this, like all efforts of patient and continued exertion, was the collection of a heterogenous mass of material, that only required adequate space to become the nuclei of museums in several departments of science. Upon the death of this gentleman, the British Parliament determined to purchase the collection from his family, and "Montague House," an old mansion, which from its construction was well adapted to the purpose, was selected as the place for its deposit. In this, the assemblage of objects was properly assorted, and distributed; officers were appointed for the care of it, and encouragement in various ways was given for the accumulation and increase of the collection.

The nucleus of a national museum was thus formed; and men of science and collectors generally, seeing that the thing assumed the aspect of permanence, contributed additions to it. Each year brought valuable acquisitions, which in many instances would otherwise have been lost to the country, and perhaps to the world; for the individual collectors would not have been incited to the task of preserving and forwarding them, often from distant parts of the world, had they not known that a repository was thus provided for the reception of the objects of their researches. In this way the contents of "Montague House" accumulated, until their value and extent have lead to the need for a new building: and we have recently, upon the side of the old edifice, constructed a public museum commensurate with the importance of the national collection. I hope to see the Empire City adopt a similar plan. In connection with the museum, is also a large public library of many hundred thousand volumes, which is annually increased by purchase, and also by presents of valuable new publications by men of science, among whom we never forget we have many to thank in America for their contributions of this kind. This library is found, by literary men and authors, of great value for reference; inasmuch as they are provided with conveniences of every description, for making extracts, copying drawings, &c.; so as to render the contents of the library as completely available to their wants as though it were their own property. And it is found that for such purposes the reading rooms are frequented by hundreds throughout the year.

I cannot, for want of space, do more than glance at some of the principal of the almost numberless collections. The discoveries of Layard, and the sculptured marbles he has brought to light, in his researches on the site of Ninevah, vie in importance with the relics of ancient Egypt; not simply as objects of very commendable curiosity, introducing to us, as they do, the social life of three thousand years ago, and affording a valuable clue to the history of art, but also from the circumstance, which may now be regarded as undoubted, that these discoveries will lead (indeed they have already, to a considerable extent, done so,) to the recovery of the lost languages of the days of the Pharaohs and the Kings of Judah. By this unlooked for addition to our philological knowledge, we may hope to become familiar with the history of the world at a period which, except for such means, is enveloped in impenetrable obscurity.

The museum contains a fine collection of Etruscan vases, which, although of a far less degree of intrinsic value, possess, notwithstanding, as giving us some light into the habits and manners of a people of whom we otherwise know so little, an interest peculiar to themselves. And moreover, these may also, at a future day, by the progress of discovery, assume a high position in the scale of historical evidence.

History, in its connection with antiquity, has, since the researches of the Chevalier Bunsen, who, happily, is still spared to prosecute his able inquiries into the literature of the Egyptians, acquired an advanced position; while an unexpected insight into the times of the pyramids that has been obtained, has rescued the labors of the antiquary and the archeologist from the scoffs of the ignorant and thoughtless.

The geological series of specimens, in a similar point of view, deserve equally meritorious remark. Indeed, it may admit of question, whether it should not take precedence of the others that I have above referred to. For if the latter are fast tending to dissolve into their gaseous origin the objections of sceptics, the geological discoveries of Dr. Mantel, (whose death during the year that just closed upon us, every lover of science must mourn,) by opening to us the true idea of the stratification of the crust of the earth, has equally disproved the *alleged demonstrations* of some German savans, that the Mosaic account of the Creation could not be true. Thus do we see that a "little knowledge is a dangerous thing;" and the importance of a *sound groundwork* in our supposed philosophical deductions.

The museum is especially rich in its osteological specimens of the antediluvian world, and we have by means of skeletons more or less perfect, almost brought before our eyes those enormous quadrupeds and saurians, to whose proportion the elephant and the crocodile become pigmies. The truth of this remark will be admitted, when the fact is known that in the "Ichthyosaurus" of the lizard tribe, the cavity of the eye has been found to measure fourteen inches; and the smallest part of the thigh bone of the "Iquanodon," of the crocodile family, measures twenty-two inches in circumference. From these dimensions some idea may be formed of the size of the creatures; on which suject no error can exist, as in numerous instances we have their bones, and in many more the impressions of their bodies in geological formations, which have now become as solid as the hardest marble.

The ornithological collection is as numerous as beautiful; preserved and mounted in the highest order of artistic taste. From the gorgeous splendor of the Eastern peacock, to the jewelled radiance of your native humming bird, each feathered tribe has there its representative.

My paper is filled, and my subject only sketched; but I must not omit to notice that some of the noblest remains of the sculpture of ancient Greece, usually known as the Elgin Marbles, are here, fortunetely for us and for them, open to study and use.

I am aware that you have some valuable museums in progress of formation in America, but my object is to urge my American friends to increased exertion; for there is no doubt that on your continent especially we may hope that future research in the direction in which Stephens was so able a pioneer, will contribute remains of the past which will be as valuable to the historian, as have been those of Africa and Asia. And since the bonds of science knows no country, the man who advances its progress by his labors, both deserves and receives the honor and esteem of his compeers throughout the world; and the repositories which his exertions have enriched, are stores from which all countries reap knowledge, and their citizens frequently renown. Every new museum, therefore, I regard as a contribution to the common property of the world, for its doors are open to all. Your friend, AN ENGLISH COUNTRY GENTLEMAN.

True and False Courage.

The distinction between fool-hardiness and moral courage is very truthfully portrayed in the following tale:—

In the summer vacation of 183–, a party of gay young collegians visited Tattershall Castle, in Lincolnshire. This remarkably noble ruin consists of a single lofty keep, rising to the height of two hundred feet, the interior being open from summit to basement. Mighty oaken beams once, however, spanned the massive walls, supporting floors which formed stories of varying height. Many of these beams have fallen to the basement, completely rotten, through shameful exposure to the weather ever since the roof crumbled away; others still pertinaciously hang, more or less broken and decayed, but, in a majority of instances, seem as if a strong gust of eddying wind would send them down crashing, to mingle their fragments with those already mouldering below.

The party were in high spirits. They had drunk old wines, and their young blood flowed hotly in their veins; they had laughed, joked and talked themselves into wild excitement. About half way up to the castle turrets there is a sort of open landing, which goes along one wall of the structure; and on to this landing the party stepped from the grand spiral staircase they had hitherto been ascending, and there paused a moment to look about them. The scene was striking. A few beams sprung across just below their feet; a few thick-moted rays of sun pierced through the adjoining loop holes; a few fleecy cloudlets flitted athwart the blue ether high overhead. Startled by the noisy visitors, a number of dusky jackdaws flew out of their holes up and down the walls, and, after chattering their decided disapprobation of being disturbed, made half-a-dozen whirling circuits of the interior, rising rapidly upward, until they disapeared.

Immediately afterward, a great white owl projected its visage from a hole close above where one of the beams joined the opposite wall, and, frightedly peering with its great dazzled eyes, the harmless creature bewilderedly popped from its hole on to the beam, and having made a few feeble flutterings, remained quite stationary, crouched in a ball like figure, close to the wall.

To free this owl from her hiding place was now the object of the company. At last, Lord Swinden one of the party, proposed to walk across the decayed beam and capture the bird. His companions remonstrated, but the Lord, on being informed that one Manners had performed the feat, he decided to make the experiment, saying, "Not that it is anything of a feat, Pooh!"

"Not a feat!" murmured his companions; and with one accord, they stretched forth their necks, and, gazing down the dim abyss, shuddered at what they beheld. Well they might. The beam in question rose at a height of about one hundred feet, and naught beneath it was there but a gloomy chasm, only broken in one or two places by crumbling beams, and not one even of these was by many feet near it. "Oh, Swinden, how can you say so?"

"I can say it, and I do," snappishly replied the fiery youg man, his brain heated with wine; "and at any rate, what that fellow Manners has done, I can do. So look out."

Thus speaking, he recklessly stepped on the beam, and, despite the remonstrances of his companions, was in the act of proceeding along it, when his arm was firmly grasped, and a low, deep-toned voice exclaimed, "My lord, do you court a horrible death? Do not thus risk your life for naught."

The individual who thus unhesitatingly interfered was evidently unknown to all present, being a casual visitor to the castle, who had just joined the group. With an imprecation, the madcap youngster jerked his arm away, and sprang forward along the beam. Its surface was rough, rounded, and uneven; and as he ran along, swerving from side to side, every instant in danger of

being precipitated downward, with the awful certainty of being dashed to pieces, his friends could hardly restrain themselves from shrieking with terror, though such a course would probably have had the immediate effect of discomposing the equilibrium of their rash companion, and so inducing the catastrophe they fully anticipated, without the power of prevention. Had the adventurer's presence of mind one moment failed—had his self-possession and confidence wavered or forsaken him—had his brain sickened, or his eyes turned dim for a single second—had he made the least false step—had his footing slipped on the slimy surface of the beam—had he tripped against any of the knots projecting from the rotten wood which had mouldered away around them—at once would he have been hurled into dread eternity.

But an unseen hand sustained him, and safely he reached the extremity of the beam, ruthlessly wrenched the trembling owl from its perch, waved it aloft in triumph, and then, with a proud ejaculation, began to retrace his steps, with it shrieking and fluttering in his hands. When he reached the centre of the frail beam, which creaked and bent terribly with his comparatively small weight, he paused, drew himself up to his full height—air above, air beneath, air all around, naught but air—and deliberately tore the head of the owl by main force from its body. Having perpetrated this cruel deed, he tossed the bloody head among the breathless spectators, and sharply dashed the writhing body into the void beneath his feet. He coolly watched its descent, until it lay a shapeless mass on the stones below; then, with slow, bravadoing mien, he walked back to his terrified party, and boastingly demanded of them whether they thought "Manners could beat that."

"My lord," solemnly said the stranger, "you have not performed the act either of a brave or a sane man, and you have committed a despicable deed on one of God's helpless creatures. You ought to thank Him, my lord, from the depth of your soul, that he saved you from the penalty you incurred."

"What do you say?" fiercely demanded Lord Swindon. "Do you dare to insinuate cowardice against me?" and with flashing brow, he assumed a threatening attitude.

"I know not, my lord, whether you are brave or not, but what I have witnessed was certainly not an exercise of true courage," was the passionless reply.

"And yet I'll wager a cool thousand that you daren't do it."

"True, I dare not: for I am incapable of offering a deadly insult to my Maker."

"Fine words!" Then, carried away by the excitement of the moment, he added, with an insolent look and gesture, "You are a lying coward."

"Listen, my lord," answered the person thus addressed, and this time his tone was even calmer than before. "One year ago, you were walking at the midnight hour on the pier at the sea-port of Hull, and but one other person was upon it, and he was a stranger to you. You trod too near the edge of the pier and fell into the sea. The tempest was howling, and the tide was high and running strongly; and, ere you could utter more than one smothered cry, it had swept you many yards away, and you were sinking rapidly. Except God, none but that stranger heard your cry of agony; and, soon as it reached his ear, he looked forth upon the waters, and, catching a glimpse of your struggling form, he instantly plunged in, and, after much diving, eventually grasped you at a great depth. Long did he support your helpless body, and stoutly did he buffet the stifling waves, and loudly did he call for aid. At length help came; and at the last moment, he and you were saved just in time for life to be preserved in both. Is not this true, my lord?"

"It is," emphatically responded the young nobleman; "but what have you to do with it? I don't know you—though it is not at all wonderful," added he, with a sneer, "that you should happen to know about the matter, for the newspapers blazoned it quite sufficiently."

"My lord, one question more. Did you ever learn who that stranger was who, under God, saved your life?"

"No; when I recovered a little, he left me at the hotel, where he was unknown, and I have never seen him since."

"Then, my lord," was the startling rejoinder, "look well at me, for I am that stranger."

"You?"

"Yes—I whom you have branded as a liar and a coward. Little thought I that the life I saved at the imminent risk of my own would be madly, wickedly jeopardized for no price whatever, as I have seen it this hour. Mine, my lord, was true courage; yours was false. Henceforth know the difference between them. Farewell."

So saying, the stranger bowed, and before another word could be uttered, had left the astounded party.

Literary Notices.

THE COMPLETE WORKS OF SAMUEL TAYLOR COLERIDGE. Vol. I. Edited by Prof. SHEDD. Harper & Brothers, New-York.—As a philosopher and theologian, Coleridge occupies a position, which the study and reflection of every year makes more prominent and influential. Prof. Shed, himself a profound and original thinker, has added a lustre to the genius of Coleridge, and given an impulse to the metaphysical thought of the age, by rescuing his writings from the obscurity which attached to them in some instances, and placing him before the world in his true light. The first volume contains his Aids to Reflection and Statesman's Manual, in which there is more sound and suggestive thought than can be found elsewhere in the English language, in the same compass. The introductory essay, by the Editor, is of a character akin, in boldness and strength, to that of Coleridge, and shows a perfect understanding of the tendency of his writings.

THE QUEENS OF SCOTLAND, Vol. III. *By Agnes Strickland.* Harper & Brothers.—This volume commences with the life of Mary Stuart, and details the circumstances of her sometimes brilliant, sometimes sad career, with all the vividness and earnestness of a sympathetic woman's pen. The idolatrous reverence which is felt for her by some, and the treachery and crime which others make her responsible for, conspire to render a full narrative of her public and private life much sought for. There is no denying to Mary Stuart, the possession of some of the most sterling virtues that ever inspired a human mind or graced a female character.

THE KNICKERBOCKER MAGAZINE. Edited by LEWIS GAYLORD CLARK, and published by Samuel Hueston, New-York, at $3 a year.—There is an originality and individuality in this magazine—a sparkle and glow, which wake up sleeping humor, and put one on remarkably good terms with himself. Capital strokes of wit, passages abounding in pathos and moral; genuine poetry, bright from the mint, ringing musically and clear; chaste essays, and life-like tales, make up the pages of this unique and time-honored monthly.

LITTELL'S LIVING AGE—*Weekly. E. Littell and Son, Boston, Mass. $6 a year.*—Among all the publications styled literary, to our mind, The Living Age is entitled to the first rank. Its selections are made from the wide range of foreign and home miscellany, always in good taste, and its influence on the mind of the general reader is elevating and refining. The stately English review, the sprightly story, the poetic gem, descriptive sketches, moral and religious essays, all are here. Place it in a family, and the taste for puling sentiment and extravagant nonsense will disappear, as frost pictures before the sun.

THE NATIONAL MAGAZINE. Edited by ABEL STEVENS. Carlton & Phillips, publishers, New-York.—The March number contains some very interesting articles, among which are a "Biography of Edgar A. Poe," by R.H.Stoddard, accompanied by a portrait, and "English Shrines," containing some account of Cowley, finely illustrated. The leading editorial, on the "Christianity required by the times," is well written, and shows sound thought. There is something substantial and solid about this periodical, which should give it a firm hold on the more reflecting class of the reading public.

THE ILLUSTRATED NEWS. Barnum & Beach, New York.—This pictorial paper is steadily improving. Its matter and embellishments compare very favorably with its celebrated prototype, the London Illustrated News.

Record of the Times.

SILVER COINAGE.—Congress have at length passed one bill of importance. Silver coin has been very scarce for a long time, and the quantity in circulation seems to have diminished in about the same ratio that gold has increased. The bill authorises a diminution of the weight of all silver coin, under the value of a dollar. The half-dollar now weighs 206 1-4 grs. Hereafter it is to weigh only 192 grs., losing 14 1-4 grs., nearly one-fifteenth of its value. The smaller coins are to be lessened in weight in the same proportion. These new coins are to be legal tenders in payment of sums not exceeding five dollars. The coinage of a gold coin of the value of three dollars is also authorised. This law goes into effect on the first of June.

GEN. PIERCE EN ROUTE FOR WASHINGTON.—Gen. Pierce arrived at New-York, on Wednesday Evening, 16th inst., and took rooms at the Astor House, where he hoped to remain some days in retirement. He refused all public demonstration, but the disposition to lionize him was so great, that he suddenly left for Philadelphia, and will proceed immediately to Washington. He is accompanied by his Private Secretary, Sidney Webster, Esq., of Concord, N. H., and a few select friends. His cabinet is supposed to be already formed. He has engaged a suite of rooms at Willard's.

CABINET RUMORS.—Reports assume the following shape to day, Feb. 18: State Department, Caleb Cushing; War, Jefferson Davis; Post Office, McClelland; Interior, Guthrie, of Ky.; all nearly certain. The Treasury Department lies between Marcy, Flagg and Dix. Navy, either Stockton or Dobbin. Attorney General, Campbell or Judge Black. It is believed the Cabinet will embrace at least three southern men.

A SCRAMBLE AMONG POETS.—Mr. Latham of Washington, offers five hundreds dollars for the best national poem, to be forwarded to the Smithsonian Institution by Dec. next. Here is an excellent opportunity for unproductive talent and latent genius. The market for poetry of home production has been of late rather dull, the supply being limited; but this premium will probably cause a material increase in quantity. Think of $500 on the top of Parnassus!

COINAGE OF THE UNITED STATES.—The coinage of the mint, during 1852, was over $50,000,000, nearly all of which was the fruit of the California mines. In addition to this, those auriferous regions supplied many more millions to different parts of the world. The export of gold from Australia during the year ending Oct., 1852, was £8,863,000, or $45,000,000. From this data, it may be assumed that the combined yield of gold from California and Australia has not been, the past year, and will not be the coming year, less than $100,000,000.

VALUABLE CARGO.—An immense emigrant ship, called the Caroline Chisholm, is about to sail from England to Australia, with nine hundred young women of good character, as emigrants. Mrs. Chisholm, who having lived in Australia, is famous for her generous interest in behalf of female emigrants to that country, will accompany them. The expectation is, that all these "gentle creatures" will be eagerly sought after in marriage by the industrious and hardy miners, farmers and shopkeepers.

IMMIGRATION.—The whole number of passengers landed at New-York, in 1852, was 340,144. Of these 118,611 were from Germany, 118,131 from Ireland. The German immigration has more than doubled the average of preceding years, while the Irish is about one quarter less than in 1851.

UNIVERSITY MEETINGS.—There were addresses in the Assembly chamber on Wednesday evening, and will be to-night, on the subject of a National University. Particulars next week.

Burning Fluid Explosions.—Ever since the introduction of burning fluid, as a substitute for oil, almost every newspaper has contained the account of some explosion, resulting often in serious injury to person, if not in loss of life. But in the face of all these accidents, or rather necessary results of chemical laws, persons continue to use lamps without any safeguard from explosion, and even defective lamps, while they assure those who hint of danger, that they have used such lights for a term of years, and having never been blown up, know them to be safe. Perhaps next day, Mrs. Bravado sees the matter in a new light, though her optics are slightly obscured by bandages; for all of a sudden the *safe* lamp did explode, to the no small detriment of our heroine's person.

Prof. Silliman, of Yale College, has recently published an explanation of these explosions, stating the means of avoiding the danger, from which we extract the following:—

"It is well known that if hydrogen gas be mingled with atmospheric air, it becomes explosive when flame is applied. The same is true if the illuminating gas be substituted for hydrogen gas; but that gas being composed of hydrogen and carbon requires more oxygen gas. This will explain the explosion of the burning fluids now so generally used, and which are composed of oil of turpentine and alcohol. The inflammable vapor which is constantly rising from the fluid when there is any space above, (in other words, if the vessel is not full of the fluid,) become mixed with the air and soon makes it explosive, just as if hydrogen gas were mingled with it; on the contact or near approach of flame, an explosion will or may ensue. The flame may be even some distance, because if the vessel be open the vapor will flow out of it, and being heavier than the air, it may even reach a candle placed on the floor and away from flame. Wherever a lamp containing burning fluid is only partly filled—and the same with the cannister or reservoir—the air above becomes explosive. This state of things occurs constantly in the lamp as the fluid burns away, and in the can or reservoir as the fluid is from time to time poured out for use. It is so common that the fluids are poured into the lamp and from the can, with a flame near at hand, and perhaps burning in the lamp itself, that we must continue to expect these very distressing casualties by explosion and burning, because most persons who perform these duties are ignorant of the danger and its cause, and the few who know better are often rash and presumptuous. The danger may be entirely avoided by the use of wire gause protectors that have been recently introduced."

FOREIGN NEWS.

The steamer Alps arrived at New-York on the 18th inst., and the America at Halifax, on the 17th, bringing Liverpool dates to the 5th inst.

England.—Excepting a few miscellaneous items, there is nothing of interest to report, politics and general news being alike dull. A Reform Banquet was held at Manchester on the third inst. Mr. Cobden, in the course of a speech, declared that he would bet £10,000 against a shilling a week subscription to the Manchester Infirmary, that the French would never attempt to invade Britain. Mr. Brotherton took the bet, and bound Mr. Cobden over in legal obligations to the amount of £10,000. Dr. Newman, defendant in the celebrated case of Achilli *vs.* Newman, has been fined £100, with imprisonment till payment. This sentence excited general surprise.

France.—From France, we have intelligence of the ceremonies attending the marriage of the Emperor, which took place on Jan. 30., in the Cathedral of Notre Dame. The Empress was exceedingly pale, but perfectly composed. She looked neither to the right nor to the left, and advanced steadily. She wore a dress of white velvet, *repingle*, with rather large *basque*. A veil of *poult d'Angleterre* flowed from underneath the small crown sparkling with diamonds. The front of her dress and the *basque* behind also shone with the same rich ornaments. The Emperor was dressed in the uniform of a general officer, with high boots and white inexpressibles. He had on the grand collar of the Legion of Honor, which had belonged to Napoleon, and the collar of the Golden Fleece, which had been suspended from the neck of Charles V., and which the Queen of Spain had sent to him. The Emperor looked uncommonly well—in high spirits and good health. The streets along which the cortege had to pass, were thronged with people. The decorations about the Cathedral were most gorgeous. In the evening, the public buildings were illuminated. The Emperor and Empress remained at St. Cloud, but took every opportunity of showing themselves abroad. Presents and congratulations are showered upon them profusely, and horrid poetic effusions have been perpetrated. The Emperor proposes to build a Palace at Marseilles, and they say one in each of the principal towns of France, and reside at each alternately, commencing next Summer with Versailles, where, on account of the expense, no Sovereign has resided since Louis XIV. The coronation of the Emperor and Empress will take place in May next, if not sooner.

The city of Paris proposed to give the Empress a diamond necklace worth 600,000 fr., but she declined the present, and in conformity with her wishes, a school for poor girls is to be founded with the sum, to be especially under the patronage of the Empress. There can be no doubt of this measure producing a most favorable impression. It would seem, too, that the Empress refuses equally to allow the Senate settling any dotation upon her; such an example of abnegation is calculated to affect very deeply the minds of the French people.

Italy.—Advices of 24th Jan., speak of a speech addressed to the Piedmontese Cabinet by a prominent leader of the liberal party, on the subject of the condemnation of Dr. Mazzinghi, who had been sentenced to three years imprisonment for reading the Bible in company with others. He argued that though the sentence was in accordance with the penal code, it was in direct violation of the spirit of the Constitution, which granted freedom of conscience in all religious matters. He denied that intoleration or persecution existed in Piedmont, and insisted that the existing laws should be at once reformed. The minister perfectly agreed with the orator, and thought the Catholic religion quite compatible with liberty. The minister pledged himself to bring in a bill at the coming session, to put the criminal code in harmony with the constitution.

Turkey.—Although the accounts are contradictory, enough has reached us to show that fighting is going on between Montenegro and Turkey. Up to the 16th Jan., the Montenegrens were victorious in the south and east, but were very hard pressed in the north. The odds against them are too great to permit a hope of their ultimate success.

Germany.—It is believed that a treaty of commerce for 12 years, between Austria and Prussia, is actually settled.

Sandwich Islands.—The Honolulu papers of Dec. 10th, state that an adjourned meeting of the Hawaiian Ag. Society was held at that city on Dec. 6. The committee on sugar reported the cost of production of that article to be 2 1-2 cents per pound. The probable price it would bear, is 4 cents per pound. The committee on tobacco expressed the opinion that the cultivation of that plant might be made exceedingly profitable. The growing of oranges for California markets was spoken favorably of. The Society, before adjournment, passed the following resolution, which will give some idea of the spirit of enterprise which is being aroused in the Hawaiian Kingdom:

Resolved, That in the opinion of this meeting, joint stock companies are feasible for carrying on agricultural operations, and that books be immediately opened for, and a committee of five be appointed to procure subscriptions for carrying on a surgar plantation, with a capital of at least $50,000.

CONGRESSIONAL.

Senate.—On Monday, Mr. Douglass delivered a speech on the Monroe doctrine. He was in favor of meeting at once the question of the colonization of the Bay Islands, which, he claimed, presents a practical issue on this doctrine. He had voted against the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, but was opposed to declaring in advance what we would or would not do, or binding the Nation in any way, as to events which might arise in the future. He spoke of Cuba in moderate terms. On Tuesday and Wednesday the deficiency bill was under consideration. On Thursday, resolutions were introduced to the effect that the government of the United States should in future treaties with foreign nations, secure to our citizens the right of worshipping God freely and openly, that they be permitted to build houses of worship, and to purchase and own burial places.

House of Representatives.—On Tuesday, Feb. 15, the coinage bill was passed, the provisions of which will be found in another column. On Thursday, the bill for establishing reciprocal trade with the British Provinces, upon certain conditions, was taken up. On Friday, the President sent a message to the House, containing communications recently made to the State Department by the British Ministry, concerning the claims of England upon Central America, and with reference to the inter-oceanic ship-canal. Great Britain proposes to withdraw her protection from the Musquito King, and to make Greytown a free city, and extend the united protectorate of the United States and England over it. The President expresses no opinion, but recommends the withdrawal of the Americal charge in Central America, and the appointment of a full minister to each of the States.

DOMESTIC.

Oregon.—The Oregonian says, that for the week ending the 25th Dec., we have had exceedingly cold weather for the country, and the prospect is that the winter will be uncommonly severe. This circumstance, coupled with the fact that with us provisions command more than double the ordinary prices, is truly severe upon a great portion of the later arrived immigrants, and would seem to indicate to a certainty that our country must be the abode of much suffering, if the weather does not moderate. The snow has fallen to the depth of ten feet on the Calabooya mountains, and all communication with the mining districts is cut off, and we shall expect to hear of much suffering, if not starvation, from that region.

Things in Minnesota.—The St. Paul Pioneer, of Jan. 14th, says: The snow is two feet deep; we have no rain, and sleighing is good. Some of our people are preparing to open their claims on the Sioux Purchase. Just at this time, the Legislature being in session, there are an unusual number of persons in from various points; loaded teams crowd the way, livery teams, driven by fast men, are threading their way among squads of politicians and lookers-on. The crowd of people is made up of Americans, of Canadian French, of half-breeds and Indians. A few years since this whole country was uninhabited.

From Lake Superior.—The Cleveland Herald says: The fall of snow, we are informed by a gentleman from Carp River, was early and heavy, and is now about six feet deep on a level in the woods. The mercury has been below zero but a few mornings, and it has been comfortable working in the open air at all times. Teams are busy hauling iron ore from the mountain, 12 miles, and the Marquette Iron Company will have some 1200 tons at their works, ready for spring operations.

Artificial Ice.—A gentleman of Burlington, N. J., has contrived a plan for forming artificial ice. The operation is effected by means of leaden water pipes pierced in small holes, so as to throw out a considerable quantity of water in minute streams of spray. At the level of the perpendicular portion of the buildings are rods, from which an innumerable portion of small strings drop to the ground some twenty feet below. The small streams play upon these strings, and if there is any ordinary freezing weather, the ice will form very rapidly. The greater the freezing surface is, the more rapidly will the ice make, and it may reasonably be expected that this building will be filled with columns of ice in a very short time.

Jerry Rescue Trial.—In the case of Brigham, the jury were unable to agree, and were discharged.

Strike on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.—One thousand workmen, from the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad workshops, with all of the conductors, breakmen and engineers of the transportation trains, struck for higher wages on the 11th inst., and marched to Monument square, where they were addressed by Frank Gallagher, and where they were subsequently joined by a

large number of machinists and workmen from all the other shops in the city. The whole number of operatives who have joined in this movement is between two and three thousand. A grand procession took place in the afternoon. They demand an increase of fifteen per cent. on previous prices.

The procession was quite imposing and orderly, and was a mile long, the men walking four abreast. Operatives from the Susquehannah and Philadelphia roads joined the procession, and it is said other branches of mechanics will join to-morrow.

Dispatches were sent last night to Martinsburgh, Cumberland, Wheeling, and all the principal stations on the road—and the operatives and those connected with the transportation trains, struck on the road and put the fire out.

A letter from the President of the Railroad Company, authorizing the foreman of the shops to pay the men the highest wages received in the city was read in the evening, but it is not satisfactory, as it does not accede to their demanded advance, and prices in other foundries are not yet permanently fixed.

Farm Product Markets.

Albany Market, Feb. 21, 1853.

FLOUR.—The market here follows the continued decline in New-York, and notwithstanding the private advices from England are more favorable than the published accounts, no improvement in quotations is manifested. The business is moderate, with sales at $4,87a5 for common to good State; $5,06a5,31½ for Michigan and Indiana; $5,44a5,69 for fancy Genesee and extra Indiana and Michigan, and $6a6,25 for extra Genesee and Ohio. Buckwheat flour $1,50a1,75.

At *New-York*, the markets during the week have been much depressed, and lots held on speculation have declined 18¾a25c; this applies principally to State, but the better brands of Western flour are very irregular, and the market was unsettled at the close. Canadian sales dull, with a limited demand for the provinces; sales $5a5,18¾. The sales of Western canal are only 40,000 bbls. at $4,94a5 for common to strait State; $5,25a5,50 for Michigan and Indiana; $5,31a5,44 for common to good Ohio; $5,50a5,68 for fancy Ohio, $5,31a 5,44 for fancy Genesee; $5,44a5,75 for extra Genesee, and $5,75a6,25 for extra Ohio. Southern has ruled quiet; the demand for California having fallen off; sales 7000 bbls. at $5,37a5,56 for mixed to fair brands Baltimore, &c., 6,12½a 7,25 for fancies, and 1000 bls. Gallego at $8,50. *RYE FLOUR* firm, supply light at $4,50a4,87 for fine and superfine. *CORN MEAL* in moderate request, at $3,37a3,44 for Jersey, $3,75 for Brandywine. Buckwheat has advanced to $1,37a1,75, with large sales.

GRAIN.—Beyond some further transactions in Barley to arrive by Canal, at a range of 74a76c, we have no sales of grain to report from store in this market.

At *New-York*, there has been a dull week in the *WHEAT* market, the shipping and milling demand being limited. The stocks of all descriptions are liberal, but not large; the sales are 27,000 bush. Wheat, 125c for white Southern, 130a135c for Genesee in small lots, the higher price for seed, 124c for white Ohio, and 120c for a large lot do. deliverable in a month. Barley malt 90a95c, and in fair demand. *BARLEY* dull and declining, at 69a72c for mixed, 72a73c for two rowed, and 73a74c for four rowed. *WHITE BEANS* offered abundantly and are lower; Western $1,75a1,94; Southern unsaleable. Sales 1000 bush. Canadian *PEAS*, in lots, 98a100c. Common domestic Peas dull 95a98c; Marrowfats scarce, and for seed $2,25a2,50 is paid. Black eyed Peas in request, at $2,62½ per bag of two bush. *RYE* fluctuates from 85a90c with sales. Rye malt 91a93c. *CORN* is in excess of the demand; the declining rates bring shippers into market; sales 75,000 bush. at 59a61½c for unsound. 64a68c for old mixed and yellow N. O., 62a66c for fair to choice white Southern, 64a 66½c for Jersey yellow and round white, 63½a65 for Southern yellow, and 62a63c for Southern mixed. *OATS* have yielded; some demand for California; we quote Southern 42a44c, 44a 45c for Jersey, and 46a48 for State and Western.

HOPS—The demand is moderate in the New-York market and prices steady; sales of 110 bales eastern and western at 20a23c cash; 100 pockets Old English part at 8 and part at 8½c. In this market, sales 25 bales ordinary at 20c. Good to prime may be quoted at 22a23c.

PROVISIONS—The demand here is only of a retail character.

At *New-York*, the Western and Southern advices have imparted a finer tone to the market, with some speculative inquiry; the receipts which are fair, are not pressed upon the market. The shipping demand is fair. For future delivery, sales of Pork have been made at $17 for April, May, and to 15th June; sales 4000 bls. at $16.20a17 for new Western mess, $15,35a15,50 for do. prime, closing at the higher figure. Beef ruled quiet until the close, when some shipping speculative demand arose. The local consumption is large and rapidly reducing the stock; sales 250 bls. at $8a8,50 for No. 1 and railroad; $12.50a13 for repacked Vermont and Detroit Mess; $13 for city and good Maine Mess; $13.25a13.50 for re-packed Chicago Mess; $14,25a14.50 for extra do.; $9,50a11.25 for common to good country Mess; $5,50a6,25 for country Prime; and $7a7,25 for city Prime, of which the stock is very limited. Prime Mess in light stock, and in request at $20,25a20.50 for Ohio; market bare of Chicago. Beef hams quiet; sales 500 bls. at $14,50a15 for ordinary to good State; $15a15,50 for river and good Western; $15,50a16 for good to extra Chicago and Wisconsin. Smoked meats are not plenty and in request; sales 8½a9c for short and long Western middles rib in, 9¼a10c for do. clear; 9½a10½c for city clear. Green Mess less plenty, and irregular at 7½a7⅞c for shoulders, 9¼a 10½c for Hams, and 8¼a9c for sides. Dressed hogs plenty and demand limited for packing; at the close, they were less scarce, with a good consumptive demand; we quote 8a9c, the latter for small pigs. Live hogs sell readily at 6a6½c. Pickled meats are not pressed on the market: amounts large; sales at 10a10⅜c for plain cured hams, 10½a10¾ for sugar cured, 7¼a7⅞c for plain shoulders. Dry salted meats scarce, and wanted. Lard arrives freely; demand fair, under favorable advices from Europe; sales 4,550 bls. and tcs. at 8¼a8½c for grease, 9¾a10½c for inferior to choice, and 1200 kegs at 10¼a11¼c. Butter, free receipts, and a further decline; demand fair for Australia and California; better kinds are not pressed on the market; sales of Ohio at 13a15c; Western Dairy, 16a20c; and fancy dairies and Orange county, 22a26c. Cheese has sold freely, for export, at 8a9c, mainly at 8¼a8⅝c.

HAY.—The sales are made here at 87½a106½c. At *New-York*, the receipts by Erie railway are large, and market dull; sales 800 bales at 87½a106½c.

SEED.—Nothing doing here, the market is held at 11 and 14c for small and large clover. Flax Seed sells here in the street at $1,25 for 56 lbs.

WOOL MARKET.

We have not much to report in this market beyond the demand for pulled, which is good, and takes all offering at 40a 45c. In regard to the coming crop in Ohio, the Cincinnati Price Current, says: Throughout the country there is considerable excitement, and contracts have been made to a considerable extent for clips at prices ranging from 45 to 65c, being fully 50 per cent above the opening rates of last season. At Philadelphia it is in good demand, and the week's sales reach about 125,000 lbs. mostly pulled, the stock of fleece being nearly exhausted, at very full rates; we quote No. 1 at 46a47½c, and merinos at 50a52½c per nett.

CATTLE MARKET.

BEEVES.—At *Albany*, 500 head sold at $7,50 for extra, $6,50a7 for 1st quality, $5,50a6 for 2d do., and $4,75a5 for 3d do.——At Washington Drove-yard, *New-York*, 1500 sold at 7a9½c and firm. At Chamberlain's, 600 sold at 7a9c——At *Cambridge*, 800 sold at $7 for extra, $6,50a6,75 for 1st quality, $5,75a6,25 for 2d do., $5.50 for 3d do. and $5 for ordinary——At *Brighton*, a fair supply in market, and a small advance realized; we quote extra $7a7.50, 1st quality $6,25a6,88, 2d do. $5.50a6, and 3d do. $4,75a5,25.

COWS AND CALVES.—At *Albany*, sales $25a50.——At Browning's, *New-York*, sales at $22,50a42,50; 50 sold. At Chamberlain's, $25a35a45; 35 sold.——At *Cambridge*, $24, 27, 30, 32, 34 and 41.——At *Brighton*, sales $25, 28, 32, 36, 42 and $55.

SHEEP AND LAMBS.—At *Albany*, 1600 offered; sales $3a3,50a4a7.——At Browning's, *New-York*, 2800 sold, at $2,50a4,75a6 for Sheep. and $2,50a4,25 for Lambs. At Chamberlain's, 3000 sold at $3,50a6 for Sheep, and $2,50a3,25 for Lambs.——At *Cambridge*, 1426 at market; quality good; sales of extra, $5.50a5,75a6a9,50; by lot, $3, 3,50, 3,87, 4a $4,75.——At *Brighton*, sales $3, 4, 4.75, 5, 6.25, 6.50a7.

SWINE.—At *Albany*, sales at $5a5,25a6 ——At *Cambridge*, hard fat hogs, 6½c; soft fat hogs, shoats and sows, 6a6½c.——At *Brighton*, a lot of Ohio hogs, good quality, 6a7c, and several small lots, 6¼a7½c; fat hogs 6¼a6½c. At retail from 7 to 8¼c.

STREET MARKET.

Street prices show a slight advance on some descriptions of grain. Barley 73a76c, Oats 45a47c, Rye 85a86c, Corn 68 a70c. Marowfat peas $1.50a1.75, small peas 87½a94c, beans $1.37a1.62. Dried apples 4½a5c. Fresh butter 18a20c. Eggs 18c. Pork, in hog, $8a12 per 100 lbs.; in quarter 9a10c. per lb.; Beef $5a5,75 per 100 lbs.; Lamb and Mutton 5a8c. per lb.; Veal 4a8c. do.; Turkey and Chickens are plenty and higher; Sales at 12½a14c. per lb.; Geese 50a75c. each; Duoks 62a81 per pair. Potatoes continue plenty at 31a50c per bu. Apples $1,50a2,25 per bbl. and scarce.

Evergreen Trees and Shrubs.

THE following Evergreens can be supplied by the quantity, at low prices:

Norway Spruce, from 6 inches to 2 feet.
American White Spruce, 2 to 3 feet.
Balsam Fir, 2 to 4 feet.
Austrian Pine, 1 to 3 feet.
Scotch Fir, 1 to 3 feet.
Red Cedar, 1½ to 2 feet.
American Arbor vitæ, 1 to 2 feet.
Chinese Arbor vitæ, 2 to 3 feet.
Deodar Cedar, 1 to 1½ feet.
Chili Pine, (Auracaria imbricata,) 12 to 18 inches.
Japan Cedar, (Cryptomerica Japonica, 1 to 5 feet.
Lofty or Bhotan Pine, (Pinus excelsa,) one foot.
Himalayn Spruce, (Abies morinda,) 6 to 12 inches.

And many other rare species and varieties, forming one of the most complete assortments of Conifers in the United States. ELLWANGER & BARRY, Mount Hope, Nurseries, Rochester, N. Y.

Feb. 12—7—2t—m1t.

Mount Hope Nurseries.

FRUIT AND ORNAMENTAL TREES.

ELLWANGER & BARRY desire to call the attention of nurserymen, dealers, and planters, to the immense stock of trees now on their grounds, embracing Fruit Trees of every description, viz:

STANDARD APPLES, PEARS, PLUMS, CHERRIES, PEACHES, &c., on free stocks, for orchards, vigorous and well formed.

DWARF AND PYRAMIDAL PEAR TREES, on quince stocks. About 50,000, embracing every fine variety that can be so worked, two year old trees, low branched, vigorous and beautiful.

DWARF AND PYRAMIDAL CHERRIES, on Mahaleb stocks. Fine one, two, and three year old trees, well branched and finely formed.

DWARF APPLE TREES, on Paradise and Doucain stocks. Beautiful two year old trees, with heads for immediate bearing—besides vigorous yearlings.

GOOSEBERRIES.—Large Lancashire sorts. Strong plants for immediate bearing.

CURRANTS.—Including the *Cherry*, *Victoria*, *White Grape*, and many other new and fine sorts. See our catalogue.

RASPBERRIES.—The new *Large fruited Monthly*, *Fastolff*, *&c.*, *&c.* A complete collection of all desirable varieties.

GRAPES.—Hardy, native sorts—*Isabella*, *Catawba*, *Clinton*, *&c.*—strong two and three year old vines. Thirty varieties of Foreign Grapes, for vineries—strong, thrifty plants, in pots.

STRAWBERRIES of all desirable varieties, and all other fruits cultivated.

RHUBARB.—Genuine *Myatt's Victoria*, *Myatt's Linæus*, *Mitchell's Royal Albert*, *Downing's Colossal*, and hybrids of the above, of our own raising from seed, quite equal to any of them.

The entire fruit department is under our own personal supervision. The best quality of stocks is used, and the most scrupulous attention given to ensure accuracy. We flatter ourselves that no nursery collection can offer a stronger guarantee to purchasers in this respect. The stock is all grown on new, fresh soil, and is healthy, well matured, and hardy. We ask purchasers to examine it.

ORNAMENTAL.—Large trees, for streets, parks, &c, such as *Horse Chestnuts*, *Silver Maples*, *Sugar Maples*, *Snowy Abeles*, *Mountain Ash*, *Elms*, and *Tulip Trees*, in large quantities cheap.

RARE ORNAMENTAL LAWN TREES, embracing the most novel, remarkable, and beautiful trees and shrubs, both deciduous and evergreen, that can be grown in our climate. For particulars we must refer to the descriptive catalogue.

ROSES.—One of the richest collections in the country, including the newest and best European varieties, selected by us in person, last summer.

BULBOUS ROOTS, imported annually from Holland.

DAHLIAS.—The new English and French prize sorts of 1851-52, besides fine older ones.

All articles packed in the best manner, and forwarded to any part of the United States, Canada, or California.

Orders strictly complied with in every particular.

The following catalogues are sent *gratis* to all who apply and enclose stamp to cover postage, which must be prepaid:

No. 1. A Descriptive Catalogue of Fruits.

No. 2. A Descriptive Catalogue of Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, &c.

No. 3. A Catalogue of Dahlias, Fuchsias, Chrysanthemums, and bedding plants.

No. 4. A Wholesale Catalogue, for Nurserymen and others who wish to purchase largely.

Mount Hope Nurseries, Rochester, N. Y.—7—2t—m1t.

Superphosphate of Lime Manure.

THE facilitating action on soil of this extraordinary fertilizer, has gained for itself a reputation hitherto unprecedented. It is some ten years since its introduction into England, and where, from its pronounced importance as an invaluable constituent of the soil, a patent was forthwith granted the first introducer. Each year the demand has increased, until now, at the present time, some thousands of tons are annually sold to the English farmers. The subscriber has had much experience in the manufacture of this manure in Europe. A large quantity was sold in New-York last season, that was made under his direction, the watched beneficial results of which, have caused orders for delivery's in the coming spring to a large extent. To prevent deception being practiced, henceforward all bags will be branded with the makers name.

On sale at R. L. ALLEN'S, late A. B. ALLEN, 189 Water Street, New-York.

LONGETT & GRIFFING'S, 25 Cliff Street, New-York, where purchasers may be sure of obtaining a chemically pure and genuine article.

Please to enquire for C. B. De Burg's No. 1 Superphosphate of Lime. Feb. 4, 1853—6—3t.

Landscape Gardening.

MR. B. MUNN begs to offer his services to gentlemen about building or altering their grounds. An extensive acquaintance with the ORNAMENTAL GROUNDS, COUNTRY VILLAS and COTTAGE RESIDENCES of England, and of this country, combined with an inexpensive system of adapting the natural advantages of the situation to the purposes of pleasure grounds, induce Mr. M. to believe that he will give entire satisfaction in the planning, laying out, or alteration of grounds.

Address Mr. MUNN, Box 3292, Post Office, New-York, or at J. M. Thorburn & Co.'s Seed Store, 15 John Street.

WM. WEBSTER,

Landscape Gardener, and Garden Architect, Rochester, N Y.

REFERENCES.—Bissell & Hooker, Rochester Commercial Nursery; Ellwanger & Barry, Mt. Hope Nurseries, Rochester, N. Y.; Wm. Reid, Nurseryman, Elizabethtown, N. J.; Alexander Smith, 388 Broadway, New-York; Wm. Charlton, Gardener to J. C. Green, Esq., Staten Island.

W. W. begs to give notice that he has been induced, at the earnest solicitation of several horticultural friends, to extend his business to the neighborhood of New-York, and that he will visit Albany and New-York professionally, at the commencement of spring. All communications to be addressed to WM. WEBSTER, Rochester, N. Y. Feb. 10—6—tf.

A Desirable Country Residence for Sale.

DAVID THOMAS, near Aurora, Cayuga county, N. Y., wishing to retire from the care of his farm, offers it with all its extensive improvements, for sale. It is pleasantly situated near Cayuga Lake, contains 118 acres fertile land, has a spacious and comfortable dwelling, with a laborer's cottage and various out-buildings, together with extensive orchards and fruit gardens, and a large ornamental and kitchen garden; the whole forming a very completely furnished, comfortable, and desirable farm residence, which is offered at the low price of $60 per acre. 6—3t.

Fruit Trees, &c.

A. FROST & CO., GENESEE VALLEY NURSERIES, *Rochester, N. Y.*, offer for sale the following, at low prices, which comprises a part of their large stock, that they will forward in any section of the country. Parties can depend that no second rate articles will be sent out, and that they will prove to be true to description.

The packing is done in the most secure manner, that plants may reach their destination in perfect safety.

APPLE TREES—Standard, of 50 best leading varieties.
Apples, Dwarf and Pyramidal Bushes, 1 and 2 years old, for gardens.
PEAR TREES—Standard, on Pear Stock, 2 and 3 years old, comprising all the fine sorts.
PEAR TREES—Pyramidal and Dwarf, worked on Imported Quince, 2 and 3 years old.
PEAR TREES—Pyramidal, extra size, with fruit buds.
CHERRY TREES—Standard, a large collection, embracing 48 best sorts.
CHERRY TREES—Dwarf and Pyramidal, 1 and 2 years old, for orchards and gardens.
PEACH TREES—All the desirable varieties. Also, PLUM, NECTARINE and APRICOT Trees.
QUINCE BUSHES—Portugal, and the Apple or Orange.
GRAPE VINES—Native, Catawba, Clinton and Isabella.
" " Foreign, in pots, suitable for planting at once, embracing 18 of the finest sorts.
CURRANTS—White and Red Grape, Cherry, May's Victoria, White and Red Dutch, Black Naples and English, and 8 other kinds.
GOOSEBERRIES—A large stock, of 40 Prize Lancashire varieties, best suited for cultivation in this climate.
RASPBERRIES—Yellow or White and Red Antwerp, Fastolff, Franconia, Large Fruited Monthly, (Rivers) and the Red Antwerp, which is so extensively cultivated on the Hudson, for the New-York market.
STRAWBERRIES—12 of the best sorts.
ESCULENT ROOTS—Asparagus, 2 years; Rhubarb of sorts, Sea Kale, etc. The Asparagus will be sold very low, if a large quantity is taken.
HEDGES—Privet, 2 years; Buckthorn and Osage Orange, 1 year.

The ORNAMENTAL DEPARTMENT is very extensive, and they refer parties to their catalogue for the varieties they cultivate, but will notice the following:

Salix Pendula—A new Weeping Willow. It is one of the most beautiful and graceful weeping trees for lawns, &c., in cultivation.

Roses—An extensive stock on hand, comprising more than 300 of the finest varieties—150 of the sorts are Remontant or Hybrid Perpetuals. Many of which are now offered by them to the public, for the first time in this country.

Bulbs—Of those that are suitable for planting in the spring, they have *strong flowering ones* of Japan Lilies, which will produce from one to five blooms each, as follows:
Lancifolium Album and Rubrum.
—— Punctatum.

BEDDING PLANTS—Their stock of Dahlias, Verbenas, &c., &c., for extensive and choice varieties of the respective kinds, can not be excelled, if equalled, in the United States.

100,000 Norway Spruce Firs, and other hardy Evergreens, 4 to 15 inches high. Price very low by the quantity.

☞ The following *Descriptive Catalogues*, lately published, and *containing the prices*, will be mailed *free*, upon application, when *one* cent postage stamp is enclosed for each catalogue wanted, if the distance is less than 500 miles, if more than 500 miles, *two* cents:

No. 1. A *Descriptive Catalogue* of Fruits, Ornamental Trees, &c., &c.

No. 2. A *Descriptive Catalogue* of Dahlias, Verbenas, and other bedding plants.

No. 3. A *Wholesale Catalogue or Trade List*, for Nurserymen and others, who wish to buy in quantities.

CHS. READ, of Pittstown, Rensselaer Co., Agent.
Jan. 13, 1853—3—11t.

Lawrence Scientific School,

HARVARD UNIVERSITY.

THE next term of this Institution will open on the first day of March, 1853, and will continue twenty weeks. Instruction by recitations, lectures, or practical exercises, according to the nature of the study, will be given in

Astronomy,	by Messrs. Bond.
Botany,	Prof. Gray.
Chemistry, analytical and practical,	Prof. Horsford,
Comparative Anatomy & Physiology,	Prof. Wyman,
Engineering,	Prof. Eustis.
Mathematics,	Prof. Pierce.
Mineralogy,	Prof. Cooke.
Physics,	Prof. Lovering.
Zoology and Geology,	Prof. Agassiz.

For further information concerning the School, application may be made to Prof. E. N. HORSFORD,
Dean of the Faculty.
Cambridge, Mass, Jan. 1, 1853—w3m2t

Farmer's, Gardener's, and Planter's Store.

A. G. MUNN, No. 530 MAIN STREET, four doors below THIRD, LOUISVILLE, KY. All kinds of Garden, Flower, Field, and Grass Seeds, and every variety of Agricultural and Horticultural Implements, Chain Pumps and Pump fixtures, constantly on hand, wholesale and retail. Also agents for the different Nurseries in the vicinity. Orders from abroad promptly attended to. Fresh Osage Orange Seed and Osagee Orange Plants.

My stock of Grass Seeds, &c., for the spring of 1853, will consist in part of—

4,000	bushels	stripped and clean Kentucky Blue Grass.
1,000	"	Kentucky Orchard Grass.
1,000	"	Kentucky Red Top.
1,000	"	pure Timothy.
1,000	"	Red Clover.
1,000	"	Kentucky Hemp Seed.

Orders from abroad, accompanied with cash or city reference, will receive prompt attention. A. G. MUNN.
Jan. 13—w8t.

United States Agricultural Warehouse and Seedstore.

No. 197 Water street, near Fulton street, New-York.

MERCHANTS, Planters and Farmers, in want of AGRICULTURAL and HORTICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS or SEEDS, for shipping, plantation, farm or garden purposes, will please call and examine our extensive and superior assortment of goods in the above line, unsurpassed by any other house in the United States, for finish, material and workmanship, and of the most approved patterns; all of which we will sell on as good terms as any other house in this city.

We have among our assortment the far-famed and unequaled EAGLE D. & F. PLOWS, warranted to draw lighter and do as good work in sod or stubble ground, as any other Plow to be found in the United States.

We also have the highest premium Straw Cutters, Fan Mills, Grain Mills, Premium Stalk Cutters, Horse Powers, Threshers and Separators of different kinds; Ketchum's celebrated Mowing Machine, unsurpassed; Hussey's Reaping Machine—also, McCormick's Cotton Gins, Cotton Presses, Hay and Hide Presses, Brick Machines, Harrows of all kinds, Sugar Mills for plantation use, Sugar Mills for grocer's use, Hand Store Trucks of all kinds, Mule Carts, Horse Carts, Farm Wagons, Wheel Barrows, Coal and Canal Barrows. In fact we have everything for shipping or using on plantation, arm or garden. JOHN MAYHER & CO.

N. B. Guano, Bone Dust, Poudrette, Superphosphate of Lime, and other fertilisers. Jan 1, 1853—m&wtf

The Lodi Manufacturing Company

OFFER their Poudrette this season at their usual rates, viz: One barrel, $2.00—2 barrels, $3.50—3 barrels, $5.00—5 barrels, $8.00—6 barrels, $9.50, and any amount over 6 barrels $1 50 per barrel. Delivered free of cartage or other expense, on board of vessel or railroad, in the city of New-York. ☞ A small trial requested.

This article is so well known, and so universally approved of as a manure for corn and garden vegetables, that an extended advertisement is scarcely necessary. The Company will send free of cost, to any one wishing further information, a pamphlet containing instructions for use, &c.—also certificates from Hon. Daniel Webster, A. J. Downing, and others, together with other interesting matter. Orders sent by mail, enclosing money, will be promptly acknowledged. All communications must be post-paid, and addressed to the "Lodi Manufacturing Company, New-York," office 74 Cortland Street. Jan. 1—m5.w5t

Isabella Grape Vines,

OF proper age for forming vineyards, cultivated from, and containing all the good qualities which the most improved cultivation for over fourteen years has conferred on the Croton Point Vineyards, are offered to the public. Those who may purchase will receive such instructions for 4 years, as will enable them to cultivate the grape with entire success, provided their locality is not too far north. All communications addressed to R. T. UNDERHILL, M.D., New-York, or Croton Point, Westchester Co., N. Y., will receive attention. The additional experience of two past seasons, gives him full assurance that by improved cultivation, pruning, &c., a crop of good fruit can be obtained every year, in most of the northern, and all the middle, western, and southern states.

N. B. To those who take sufficient to plant four acres, as he directs, he will, when they commence bearing, furnish the owner with one of his vinedressers whom he has instructed in his mode of cultivation; and he will do all the labor of the vineyard, and ensure the most perfect success. The only charge a reasonable compensation for the labor. R. T. U.
Jan. 13—w9m2t.

The Leisure Hour.

The Fear and the Hope.

BY CALDER CAMPBELL.

My thoughts within me grow at times so high,
That, looking at them 'twixt the earth and sky,
They dazzle me with glow of green and gold;
Thus ripe fruits hang i' the sun
On haughty walls unwon
By longing little hands, that pine their sweets to hold!

Is, then, the stature of my mind so low,
That I can never hope to reach the show
Imagination forms of fruitage fine,
Which gleams before the eye
Of thought, too far and high
To come within a grasp so weak and dwarfed as mine?

After long hours of pain, when Love seems lost
In swampy selfishness, and Hope is tossed
About wild waves that lend no rock to rest on;
Then suddenly comes Ease,
Smoothing the mind's rough seas,
Till they are fit for Hope—fair swan!—to build its nest on!

Then, when exempt from physical cares, it is
Those visions bright approach me, ripe with bliss,
Singing glad Yea-words, fraught with Hope, that make
Each sublunary care
A bubble of the air,
Whilst momentary ease a lasting shape doth take.

O Hope, fair Hope! deceiving Hope! but still
Consoling Hope, I would not have aught chill
Thy warm tides in my soul; but when I sought them
And found them, prize them well;
Dear are the tales they tell
Of apples sour in May, that sweeten ere 't is autumn.

The Beauties of Winter.

A correspondent of the *Knickerbocker* writes thus about winter: "Rejoice O homeless and poverty stricken! Truly says the sentimental one, 'God tempers the wind to the shorn lamb.' But when He gives to it a cutting edge, and bars the living streams, He opens human hearts, and keeps the tear of pity from being frozen. Thus while the bosom of the beauteous earth is cold, the golden harvest is transferred to gentler zones, and Ruth goes gleaning.

"Ye denizens of the city, who think no luxury like that of your well-walled abodes, and only rusticate awhile in June, to see the breakers beat, or to hear the streams murmur, have you no winter palace on the rivers, and no homestead among the hills? Come out! come out! There's warmth between the ample jambs. There's beauty in the landscape, even now; and when you go to face the nipping air, you shall behold a spectacle well worth the winter-jaunt. Crows' Nest, it is true, looks hoar and bleak; gigantic icicles are pendant from the rocks; and as you walk through hemlock groves, you may chance to come upon a cascade frozen, a water-fall arrested on the foaming brink, a mill-flume clogged, great rocks and boulders crusted in the stream. There is an animated play upon the pond: Godenski, or the Skaters of Wilna. I for one would not be absent from the fields to greet the early spring, to hear the blue-bird carol, or the buds crack in June; and still I love among the snow-clad hills and wintry vales to see the cloudy banks and the drifts circling about the peaks; just as in sweltering heats to watch the impending gusts, to hear the thunders roll among the mountains, to see the lightnings play, to watch the effect of light and shadow. Here are no little theatres with tawdry show, paste-board pictures; but most magnificent, the sceneries stretch far and wide in a new phase. Here are no strings tight-strained to concert-pitch: but oh! the opera of the winter winds, soon as great Boreas has seized the baton, and taken his seat in the high North, commanding them to blow high, to blow low, now here, now there; now screaming through scrannel-pipes, now hooting as if the fiends kept concord, now rolling through the wide gaps, big mountain-gullies, with full, commanding swell, then retreating to some Sistine cell like a dying Miserere."

English Ladies.

Our eyes have just now fallen upon a passage in Mr. Greeley's last letter from Europe, in which he speaks of the appearance of the English women, and commends, with a little more than his usual ardor of expression, their perfection of figure. He attributes this, and very justly, to the English lady's habit of out-of-door exercise. We had thought that this fact was known: that it was known years ago, and that our fair country-women would catch a hint from it, that would throw color into their cheeks and fullness into their forms. And yet, sadly enough, our ladies still coop themselves into their heated rooms, until their faces are like lilies, and their figures—like lily stems!

We have alluded to the matter now, not for the sake of pointing a satire surely, but for the sake of asking those one or two hundred thousand ladies, who every month light our pages with their looks, if they do indeed prize a little unnatural pearliness of hue, and delicacy of complexion, beyond that ruddy flush of health (the very tempter of a kiss!) and that full development of figure, which all the poets, from Homer down, have made one of the chieftiest beauties of a woman?

If not, let them make of themselves horsewomen: or, bating that, let them make acquaintance with the sunrise: let them pick flowers with the dew upon them: let them study music of nature's own orchestra. Vulgarity is not essential to health: and a lithe, elastic figure does not grow in hot-houses.

For ourselves, we incline heartily to the belief, that if American women have a wish to add to the respect, the admiration, the love, and (if need be) the fear of the men, they will find an easier road toward that gain, in a little vigorous out-of-door exercise, and a uniform attention to the great essentials of health, than in any new-fangled costumes, or loudly applauded "Rights."
—*Harper's Magazine.*

The Lover Everywhere.

There is no other such crisis in human life as the crisis of Love. The philosopher may experience uncontrollable agitation in verifying his principle of balancing systems of worlds, feeling perhaps as if he actually saw the creative hand in the act of sending the planets forth on their everlasting way; but he knows at such a moment no emotions so divine as those of the spirit becoming conscious that it is beloved; be it the peasant girl in the meadow, or the daughter of the sage, or the artisan beside his loom, or the man of letters musing by his fire-side. The warrior about to strike the decisive blow for the liberties of a nation is not in a state of such lofty resolution as those who, by joining hearts, are laying their joint hands on the whole wide realm of futurity for their own. The statesman, in the moment of success, is not conscious of so holy and so intimate a thankfulness as they who are aware that their redemption has come in the presence of a new and sovereign affection. And these are many: they are in all corners of every land. The statesman is the leader of a nation; the warrior is the grace of an age; the philosopher is the birth of a thousand years; but the Lover—where is he *not?* Wherever parents look round upon their children, there he *has* been: wherever children are at play together there he soon *will* be; wherever there are roofs under which men dwell, wherever there is an atmosphere vibrating with human voices, there is the lover, and there is his lofty worship going on—unspeakable, perchance, but revealed in the brightness of the eye, the majesty of the presence, and the high temper of the discourse. Men have been ungrateful and perverse; they have done what they couid to counteract it, to debase this most heavenly influence of their life; but the laws of their Maker are too strong, the benignity of their Father is too patient and too fervent, for their opposition to withstand; and true love continues, and *will* contine, to send up its homage amidst the meditations of every eventide, and the busy hum of noon, and the song of the morning stars.—*Harriet Martineau.*

Creeping Plants of Ceylon.

At Topari the creeping plants are as beautiful as they are various. They cover the stems of the loftiest trees, shoot across the top branches, extending from branch to branch, and from tree to tree, over a continuous extent of wood; bordering the forest paths, roofing with verdure and bloom the entire thicket, completely shutting out the intense heat of the blazing sun, producing a profuse, varied, and rich mass of the most luxurious green tints, the intense light shining through their transparent leaves; while their graceful tendrils hang in wreaths, festoon-garlands of gorgeous blossoms, red, yellow, purple, blue and white; some of them small and tiny, others as large as a peony rose, closing you with a thin partition of quivering leaves, through which the parrot and humming bird are constantly fluttering; also the graceful ribbon bird, which is white, with a tuft on the head, and two long feathers growing out of its tail, closely resembling the bird of paradise. Some of these creeping plants are of huge dimensions, and are called jungle rope, being as thick and as closely twisted as a cable, which it closely resembles.—*Dublin University Magazine.*

SYMPATHY, we find described to be "a *sensibility* of which its *objects* are oftentimes *in*sensible." It may be considered wrong to discourage a feeling of which there is no great superabundance in this selfish and hard-hearted world; but even of the little that *exists*, a portion is frequently thrown away; a fact sufficiently illustrated by an amusing instance, cited by the writer in question:

"A city damsel, whose ideas had been *Arcadianized* by the perusal of pastorals, having once made an excursion to a distance of twenty miles from London, wandered into the fields, in the hope of discovering a *bona-fide* live 'shepherd.' To her great delight, she at length encountered one, under a green hedge, with his dog by his side, his 'crook' in his hand, and his sheep round about him, just as if he were sitting to be modeled in China for a chimney-ornament. To be sure, he did not exhibit the blue jacket, jessamine vest, pink inexpressibles, and peach-colored stockings of those faithful portraitures. This was mortifying: still more so was it, that he was neither particularly young nor cleanly; but most of all, that he wanted the indispensable accompaniment of a pastoral reed, in order that he might beguile his solitude with the charms of music. Touched with pity at this privation, and lapsing unconsciously into poetical language, the damsel exclaimed:

"'Ah, gentle shepherd! tell me, where's your pipe?'

"'I left it at home, miss,' replied the clown, scratching his head, 'cause I haint got no 'baccy!'"

The "sentiment" was satisfied at once in this case.

Rules for Home Education.

The following are worthy of being printed in letters of gold, and being placed in a conspicuous position in every household:—

1. From your children's earliest infancy, inculcate the necessity of instant obedience.
2. Unite firmness with gentleness. Let your children always understand that you mean exactly what you say.
3. Never promise them anything, unless you are sure that you can give them what you promise.
4. If you tell a child to do something, show him how to do it, and see that it is done.
5. Always punish your children for willfully disobeying you, but never punish in anger.
6. Never let them perceive that they can vex you or make you lose your self-command.
7. If they give way to petulance and temper, wait till they are calm, and then gently reason with them on the impropriety of their conduct.
8. Remember that a little present punishment when the occasion arises, is much more effectual than the threatening of a greater punishment should the fault be renewed.
9. Never give your children anything because they cry for it.
10. On no account allow them to do at one time what you have forbidden, under the like circumstances, at another.
11. Teach them that the only sure and easy way to appear good, is to be good.
12. Accustom them to make their little recitals with perfect truth.
13. Never allow of tale-bearing.
14. Teach them that self-denial, not self-indulgence, is the appointed and sure method of securing happiness.

WANTED SOMETHING TO DO.—Will somebody find this man some employment? He has evidently great capacity, and there is no telling what he might do:

"Sir, I have no books, and no internal resources. I can not draw, and if I could, there's nothing that I want to sketch. I don't play the flute, and if I did there's nobody that I should like to have listen to me. I never wrote a tragedy, but I think I am in that state of mind in which tragedies are written. Any thing lighter is out of the question. I whistle four hours a day, yawn five, smoke six, and sleep the rest of the twenty-four, with a running accompaniment of swearing to all these occupations, except the last, and I'm not quite sure that I don't sometimes swear in my dreams.

"In one word, sir, I'm getting desperate, for the want of *something to do.*"

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